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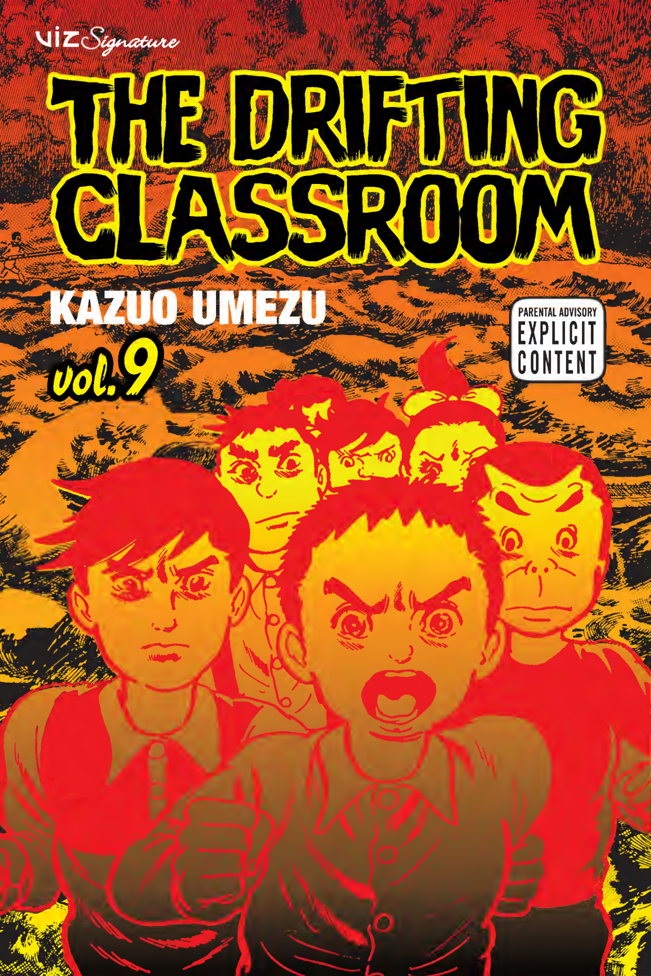
THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM

KAZUO UMEZU

vol. 9

PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in 1936, Kazuo Umezu is Japan's most respected and influential horror manga artist. Umezu began his artistic career at the age of 18, creating stories for both *shôjo* (girls) and *shonen* (boys) manga magazines, and working in an amazingly diverse range of genres. In Japan he is most famous for the gag manga *Makoto-chan* (1971), but his most ambitious works are horror and science fiction, including *The Drifting Classroom* (1972-1974), *My Name is Shingo* (1982-1986), *The Left Hand of God, the Right Hand of the Devil* (1986-1989) and *Fourteen* (1990-1995). His works have been adapted into anime and live-action films.

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM
Vol. 9

STORY AND ART BY KAZUO UMEZU

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RATED M FOR MATURE

PARENTAL ADVISORY
THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM is rated M for Mature and is recommended for mature readers. Contains strong language and graphic violence.

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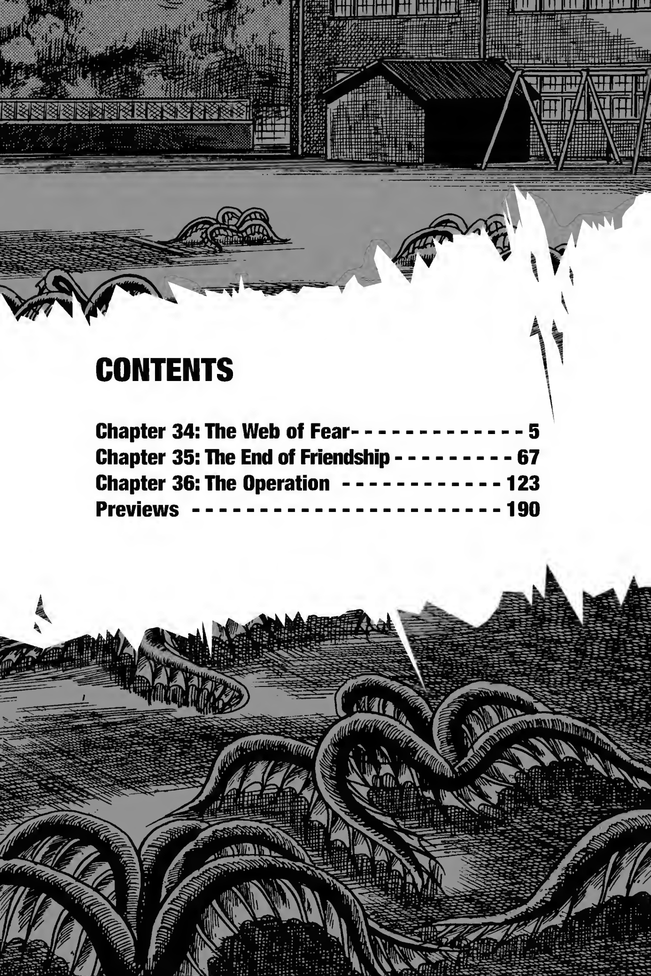
vol. 9

KAZUO UMEZU



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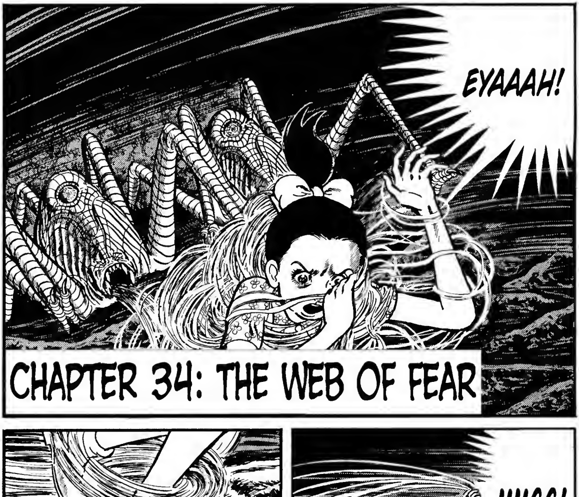
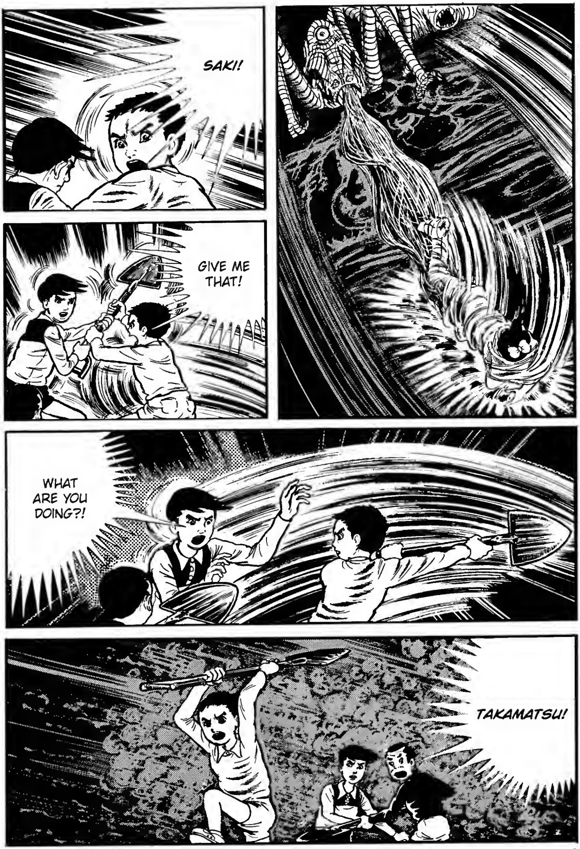
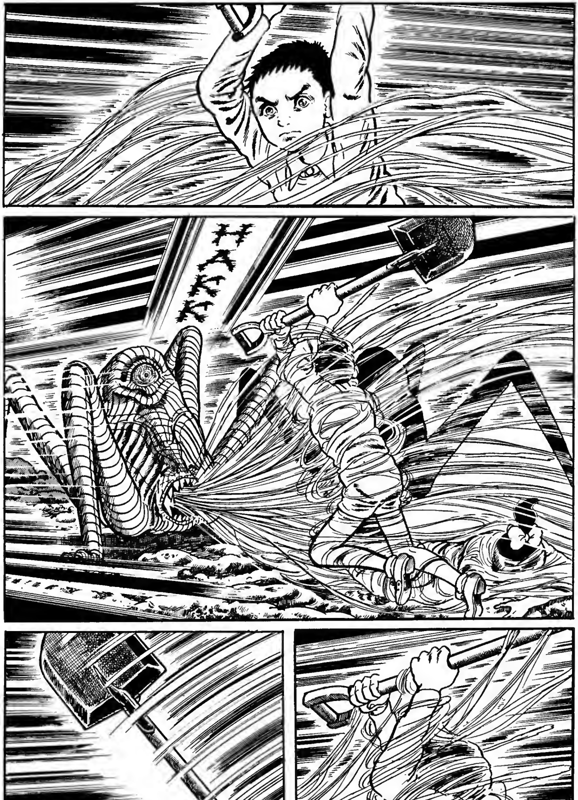
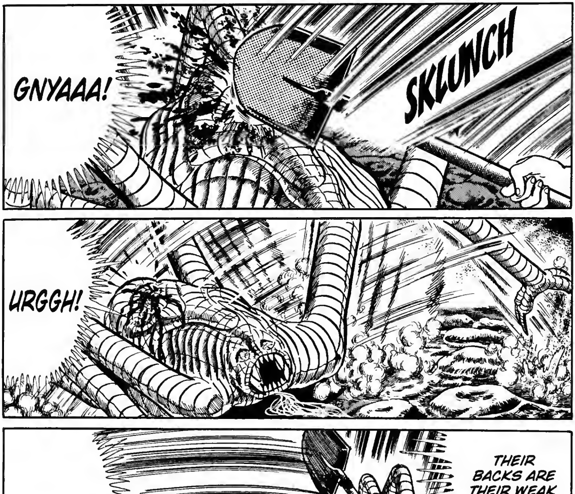
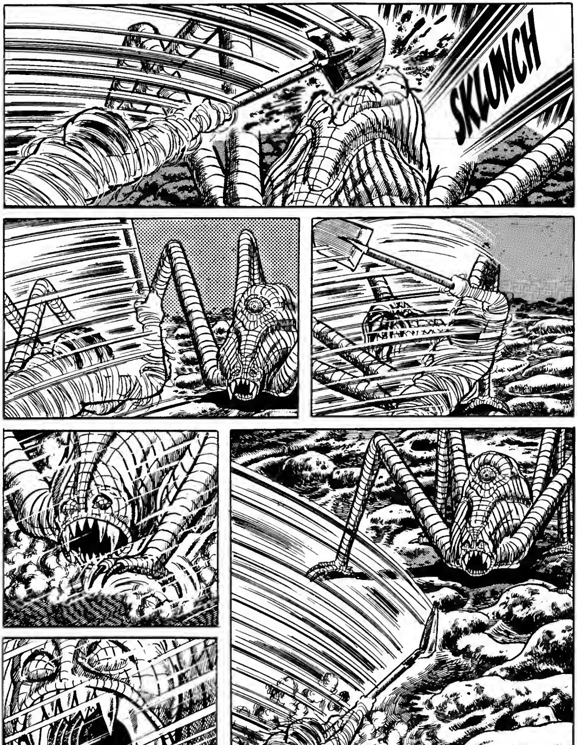
CHAPTER 34: THE WEB OF FEAR

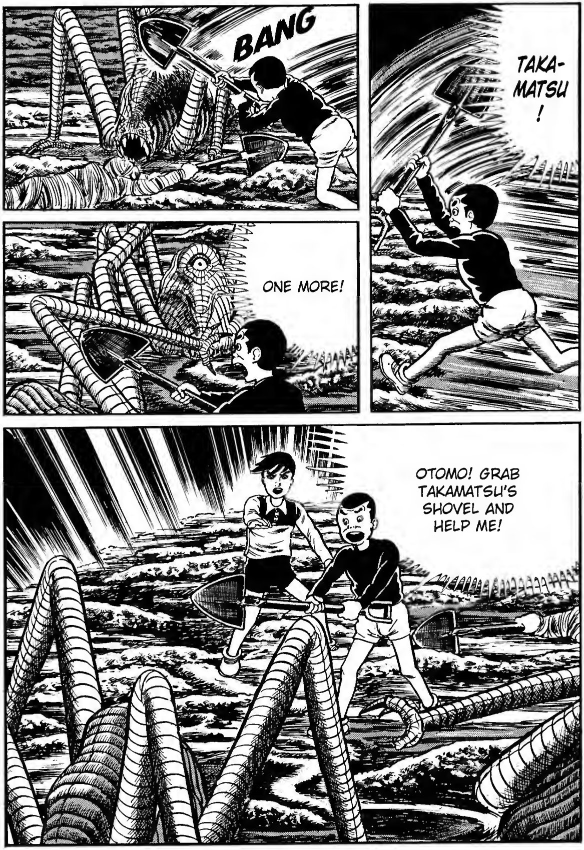

EYAAAH!
MMGG!

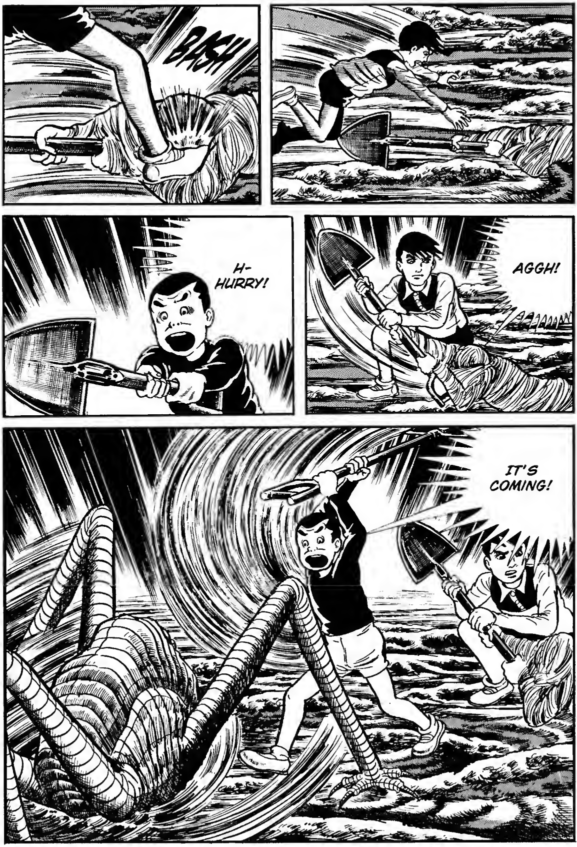

SAKI!
GIVE ME THAT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
TAKAMATSU!

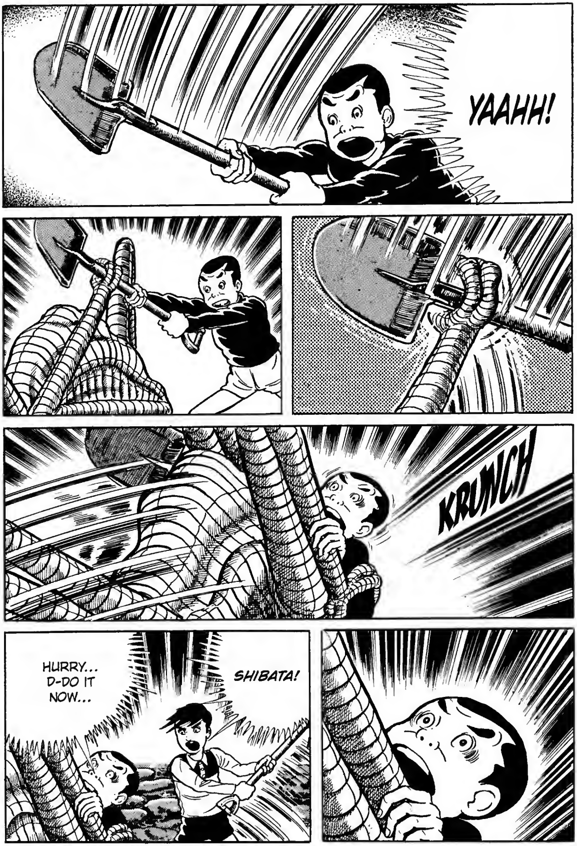

HAKK

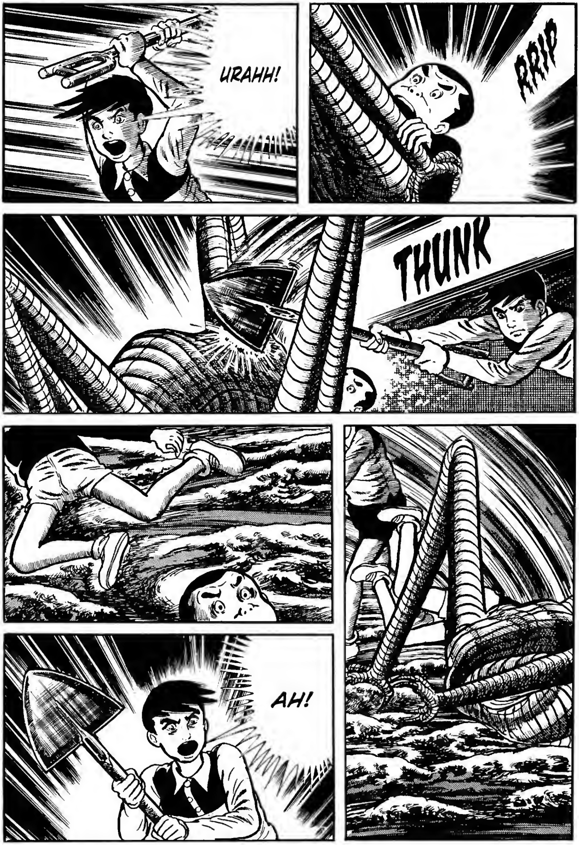

SKLUNCH
GNYAAA!
URGGH!
THEIR BACKS ARE THEIR WEAK POINT!
URRR...

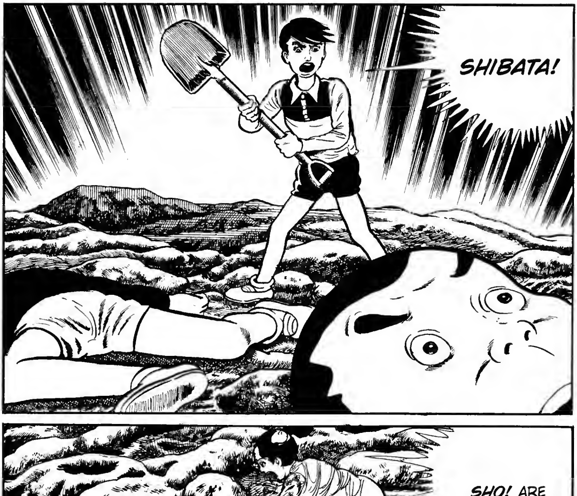

SKLUNCH

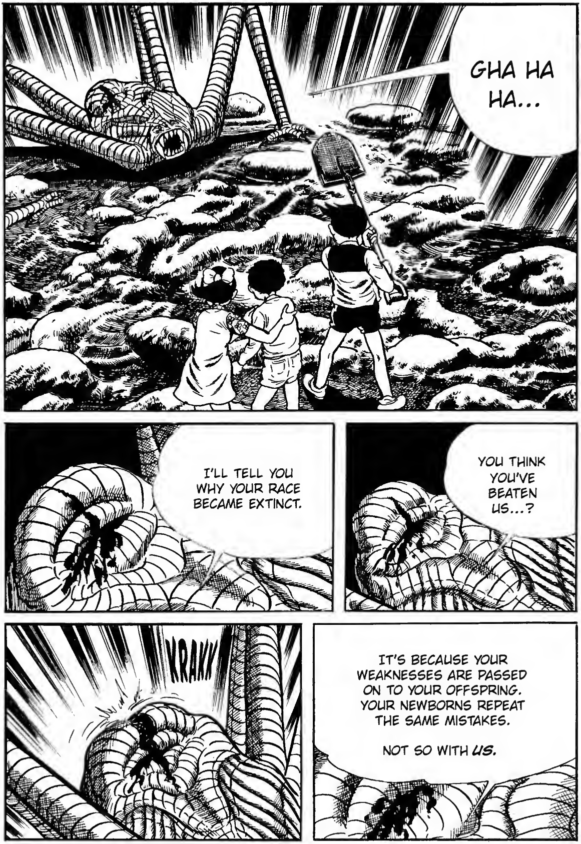

BANG
TAKAMATSU!
ONE MORE!
OTOMO! GRAB TAKAMATSU'S SHOVEL AND HELP ME!

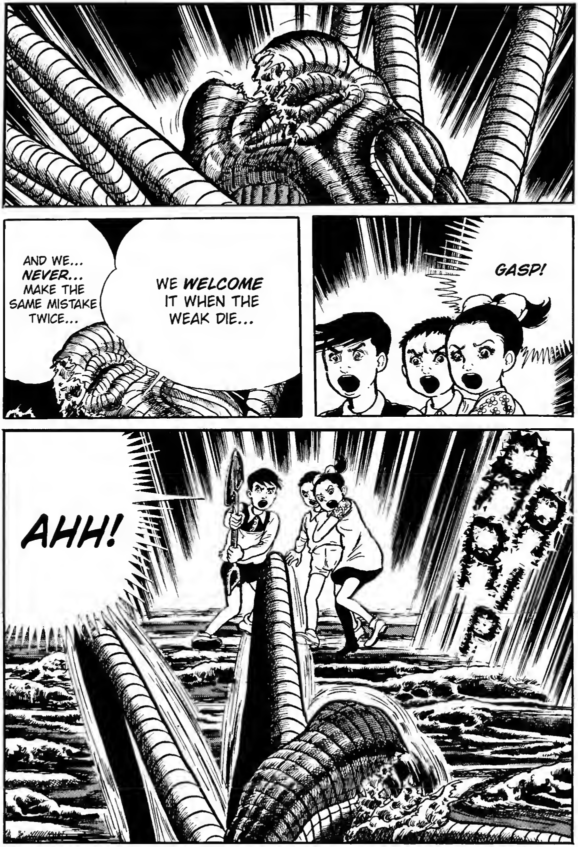

BASH
H-HURRY!
AGGH!
IT'S COMING!

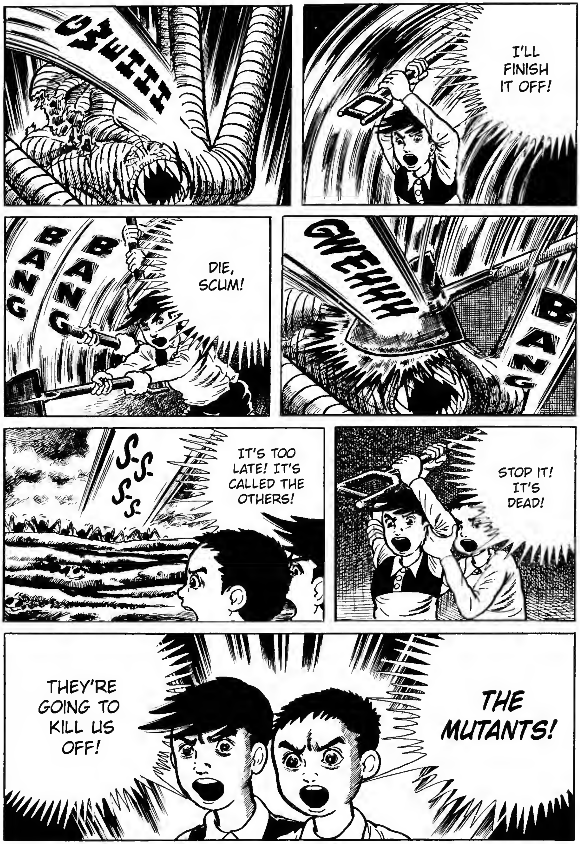

YAAHH!
KRUNCH
HURRY... D-DO IT NOW...
SHIBATA!

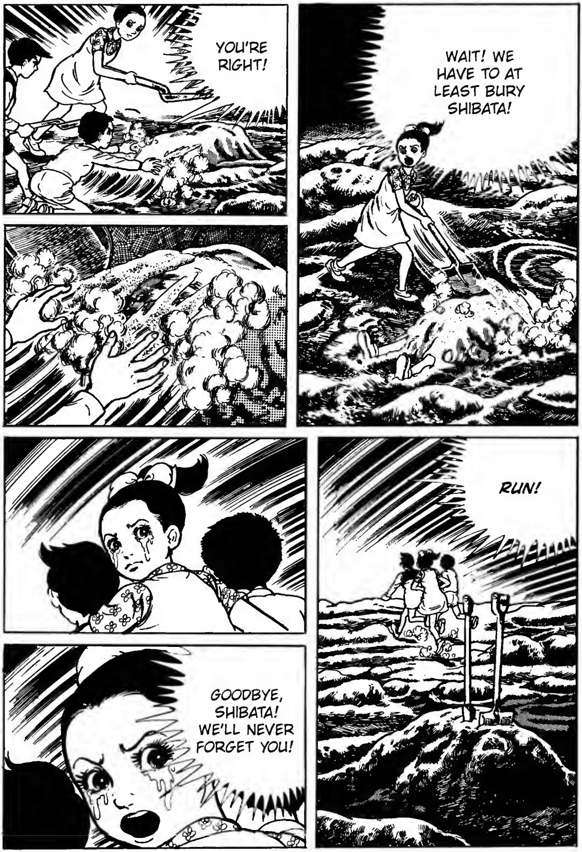

URAHH!
RRIP
THUNK
AH!

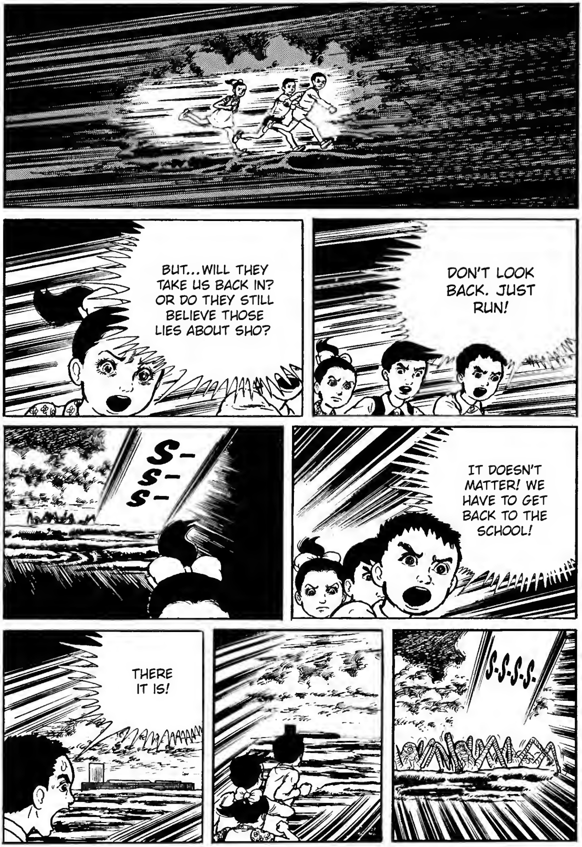

SHIBATA!
SHO! ARE YOU OKAY?
URGH...

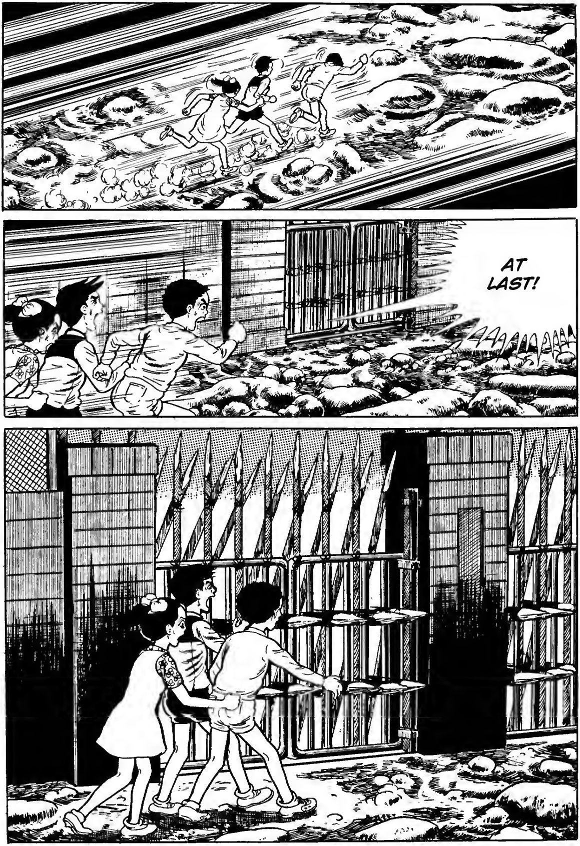

GHA HA HA...
I'LL TELL YOU WHY YOUR RACE BECAME EXTINCT.
YOU THINK YOU'VE BEATEN US...?
KRAKK
IT'S BECAUSE YOUR WEAKNESSES ARE PASSED ON TO YOUR OFFSPRING. YOUR NEWBORNS REPEAT THE SAME MISTAKES.
NOT SO WITH *US.*

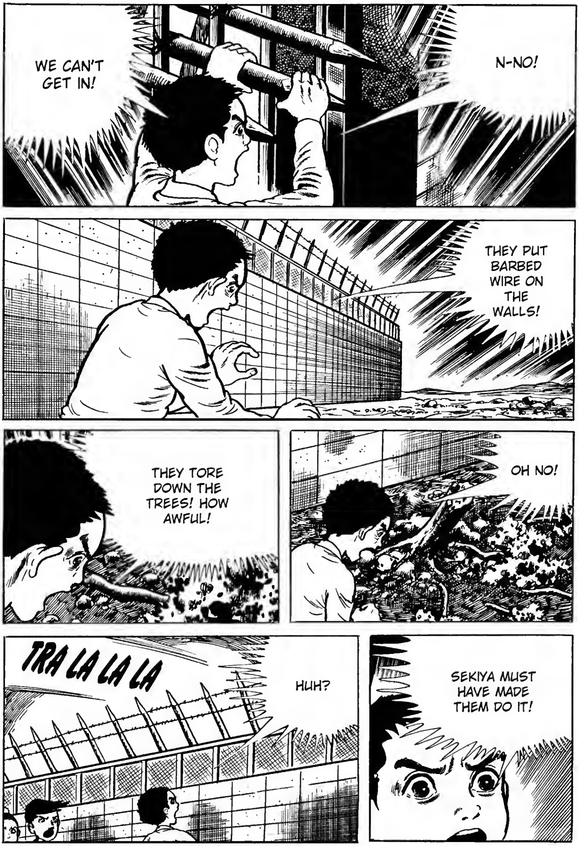

WE **WELCOME** IT WHEN THE WEAK DIE...
AND WE... **NEVER...** MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE TWICE...
GASP!
AHH!

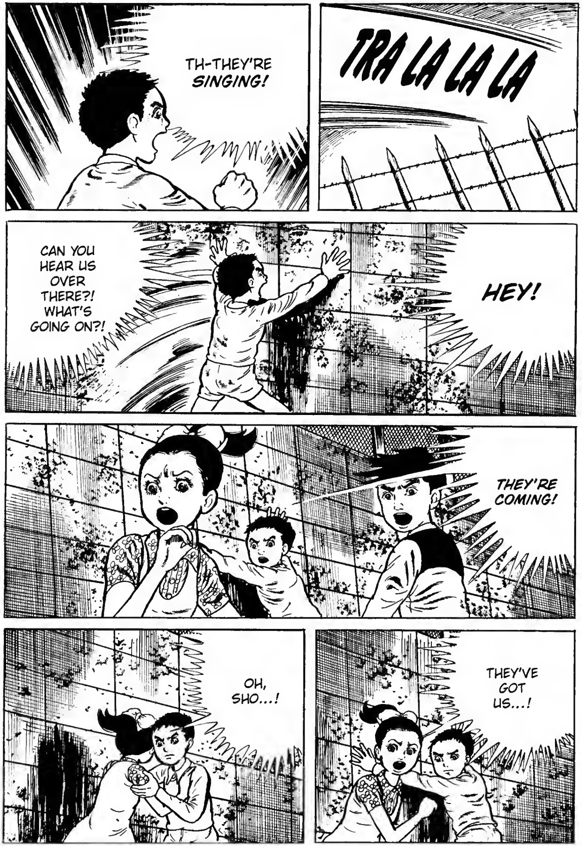

GWEHHH
I'LL FINISH IT OFF!
BANG BANG
DIE, SCUM!
GWEHHH
BANG
S-S-S-S-
IT'S TOO LATE! IT'S CALLED THE OTHERS!
STOP IT! IT'S DEAD!
THEY'RE GOING TO KILL US OFF!
THE MUTANTS!

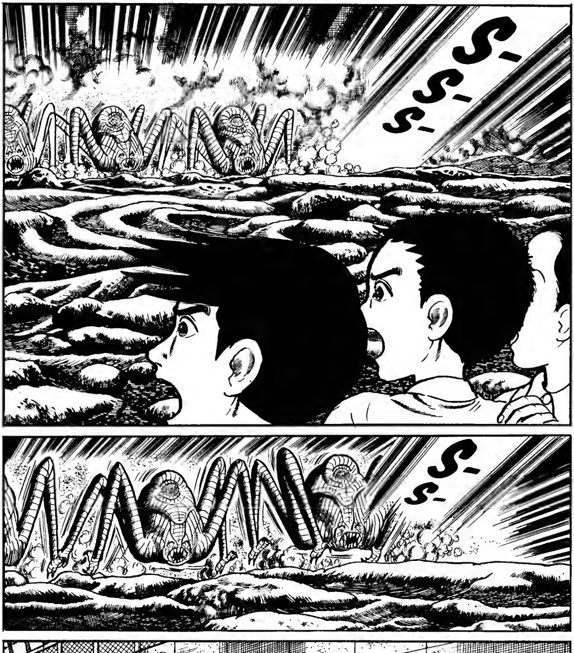

WAIT! WE HAVE TO AT LEAST BURY SHIBATA!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
RUN!
GOODBYE, SHIBATA! WE'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!

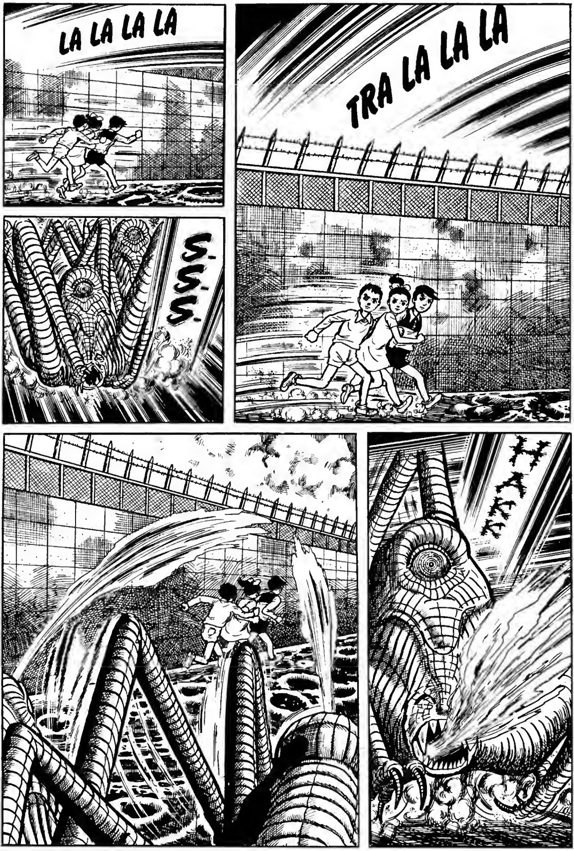

BUT...WILL THEY TAKE US BACK IN? OR DO THEY STILL BELIEVE THOSE LIES ABOUT SHO?
DON'T LOOK BACK. JUST RUN!
S- S- S-
IT DOESN'T MATTER! WE HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE SCHOOL!
THERE IT IS!
S-S-S-S-

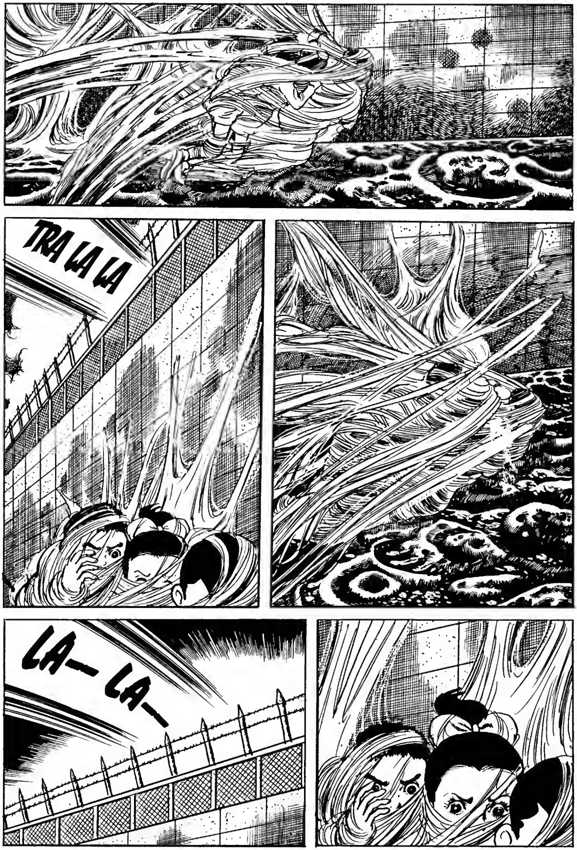

AT LAST!

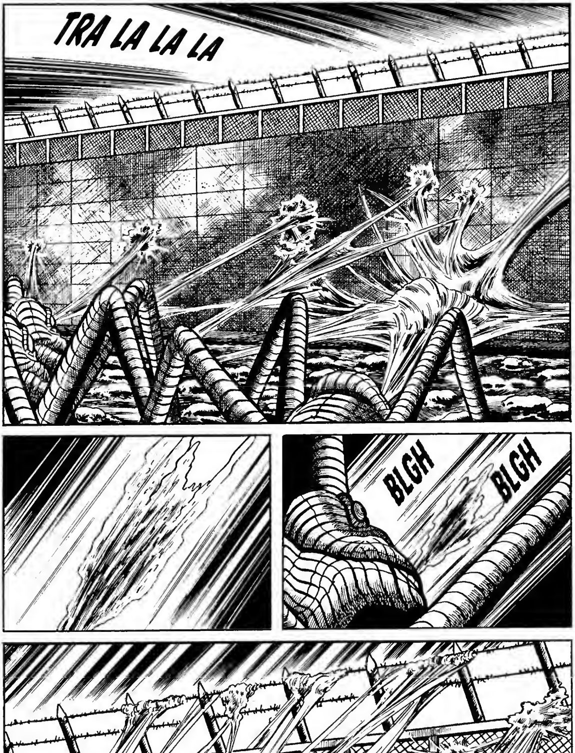

N-NO!
WE CAN'T GET IN!
THEY PUT BARBED WIRE ON THE WALLS!
OH NO!
THEY TORE DOWN THE TREES! HOW AWFUL!
SEKIYA MUST HAVE MADE THEM DO IT!
TRA LA LA LA
HUH?

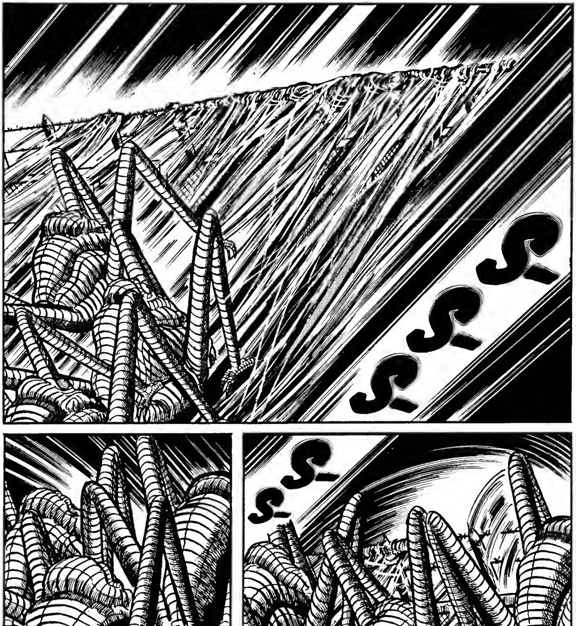

TH-THEY'RE *SINGING!*
TRA LA LA LA
CAN YOU HEAR US OVER THERE?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
HEY!
THEY'RE COMING!
OH, SHO...!
THEY'VE GOT US...!

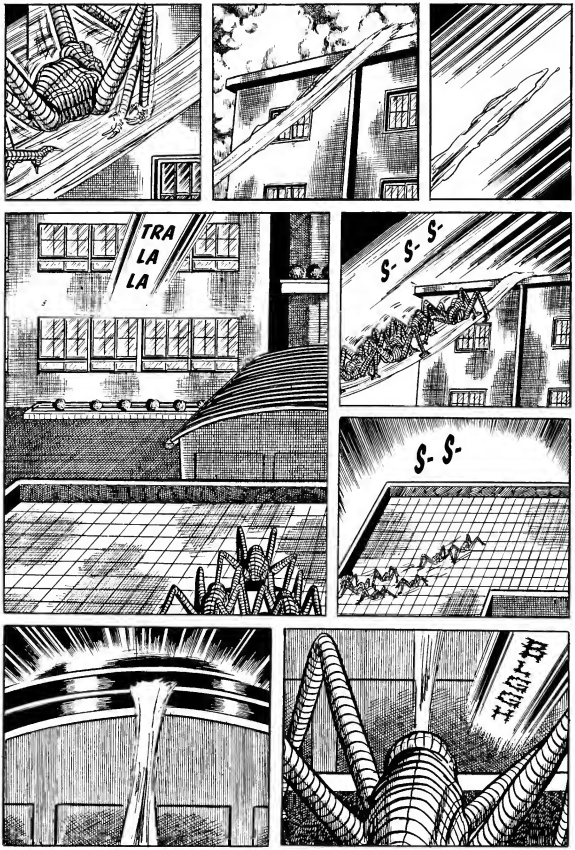

S-
S-
S-
S-
S-

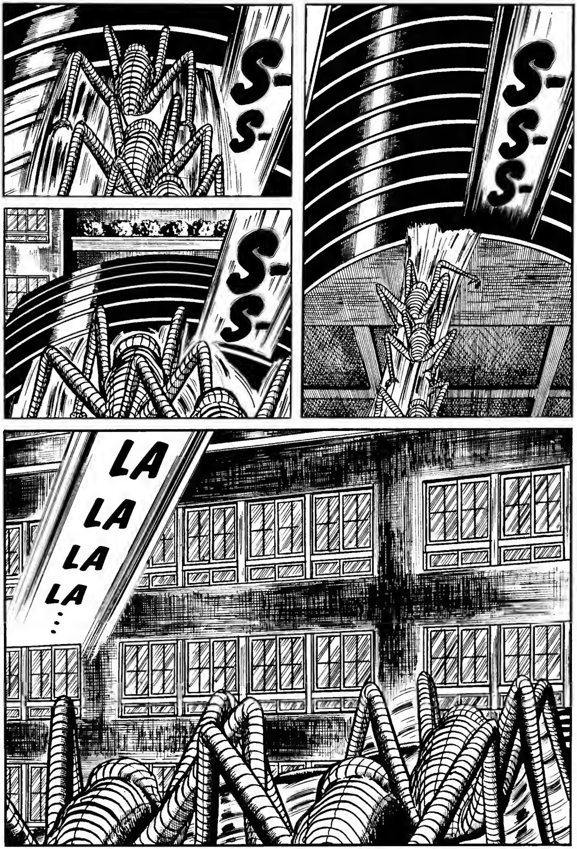

LA LA LA LA
TRA LA LA LA
S-S-S-
HAKK

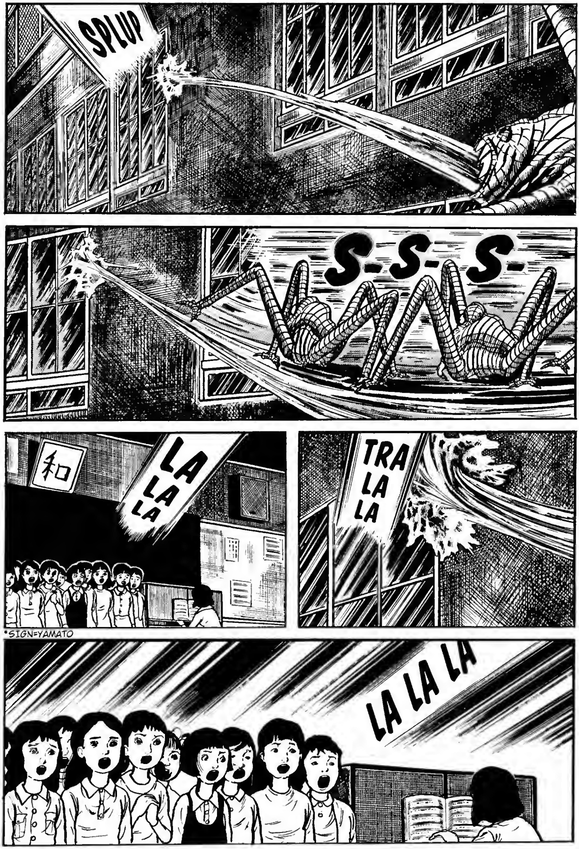

TRA LA LA
LA— LA—


TRA LA LA LA
BLGH
BLGH

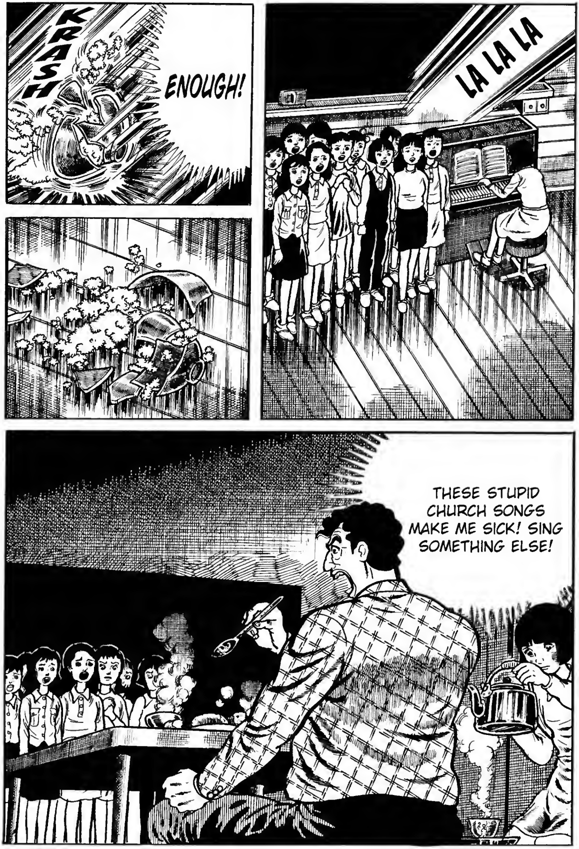

S-
S-
S-
BLG
BLG
BLG
S-
S-
S-
S-
S-

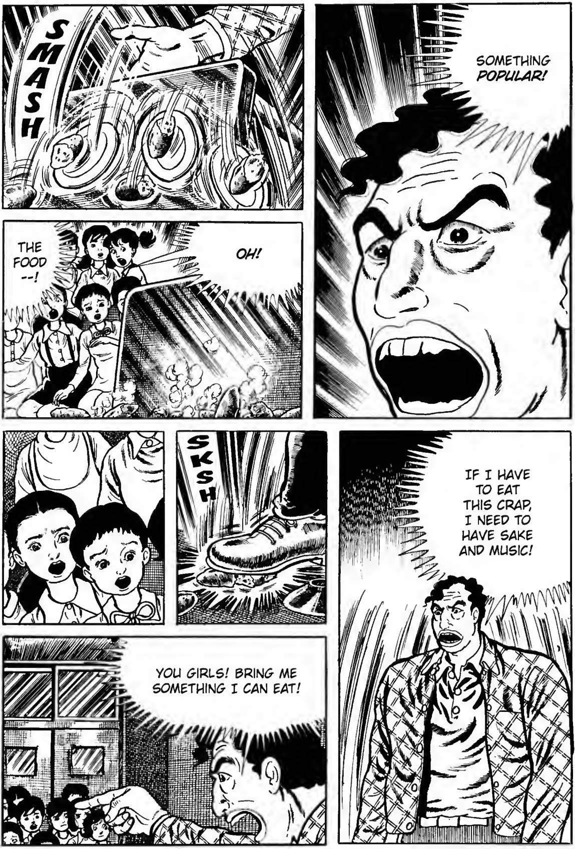

TRA
LA
LA
S- S- S-
S- S-
BLOOSH

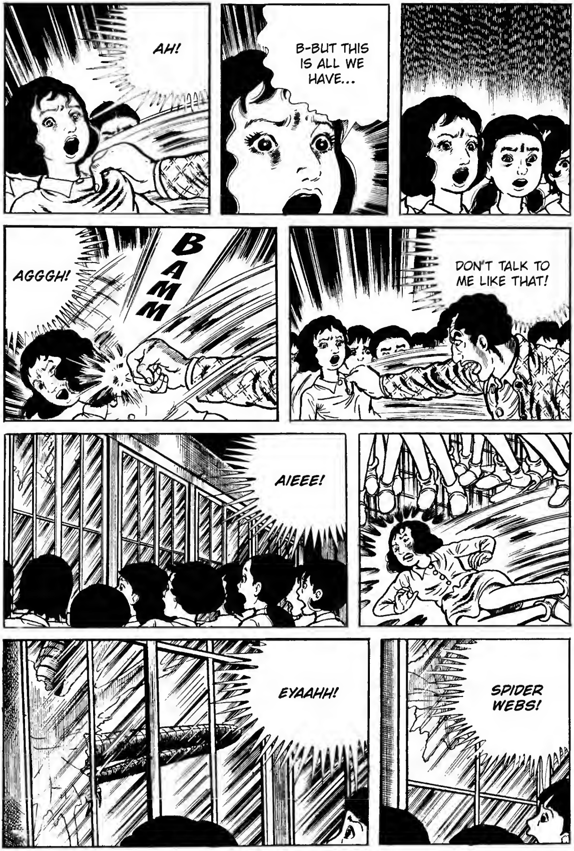

S-
S-
S-
S-
S-
S-
S-
LA
LA
LA
LA...

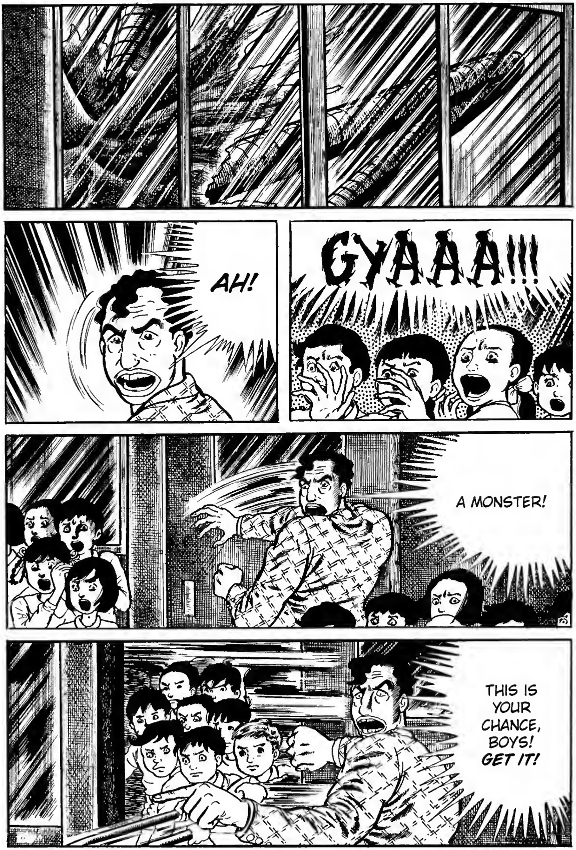

SPLUP
S-S-S-
和
LA LA LA
TRA LA LA
LA LA LA

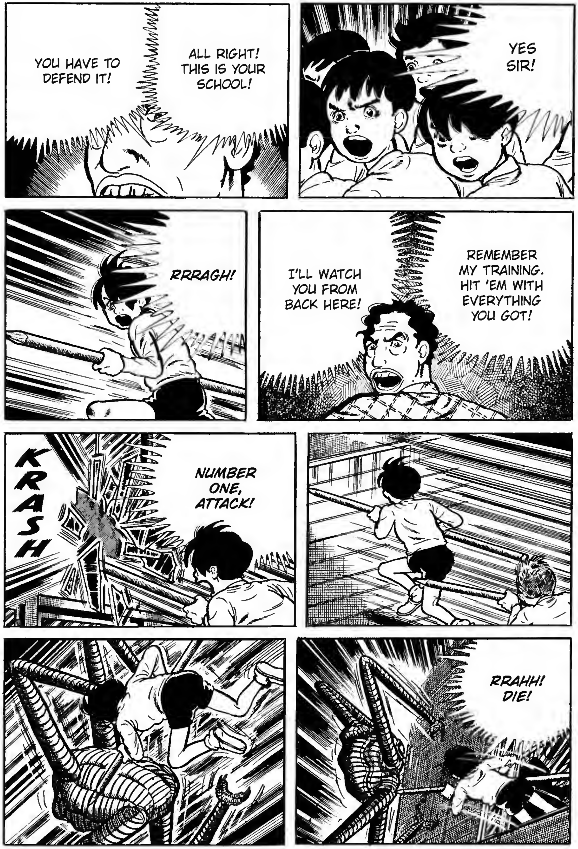
*SIGN=YAMATO

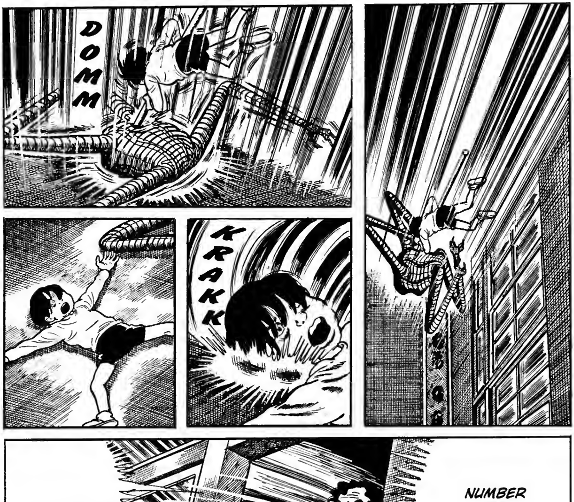

KRASH
ENOUGH!
LA LA LA
THESE STUPID CHURCH SONGS MAKE ME SICK! SING SOMETHING ELSE!

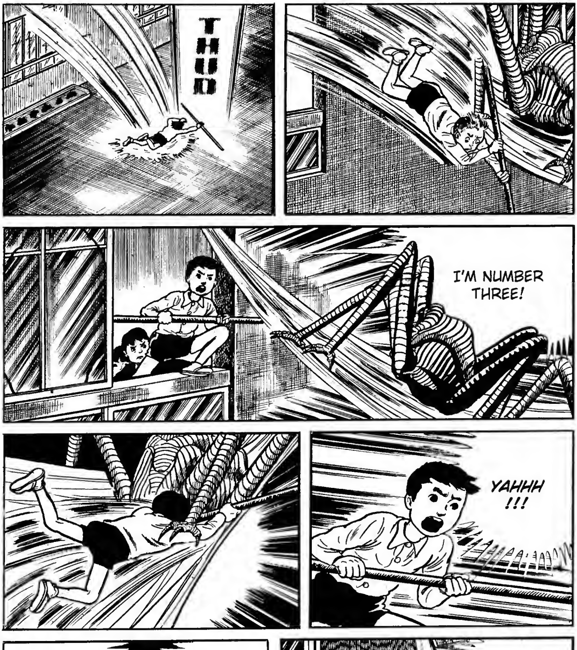

SOMETHING *POPULAR!*
SMASH
OH!
THE FOOD --!
IF I HAVE TO EAT THIS CRAP, I NEED TO HAVE SAKE AND MUSIC!
SKSH
YOU GIRLS! BRING ME SOMETHING I CAN EAT!

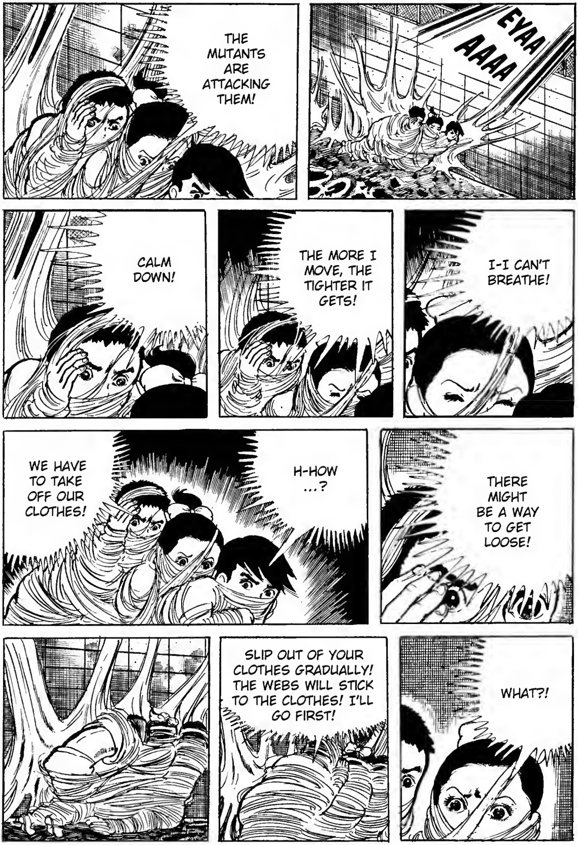

B-BUT THIS IS ALL WE HAVE...
AH!
DON'T TALK TO ME LIKE THAT!
BAMM
AGGGH!
AIEEE!
SPIDER WEBS!
EYAAHH!

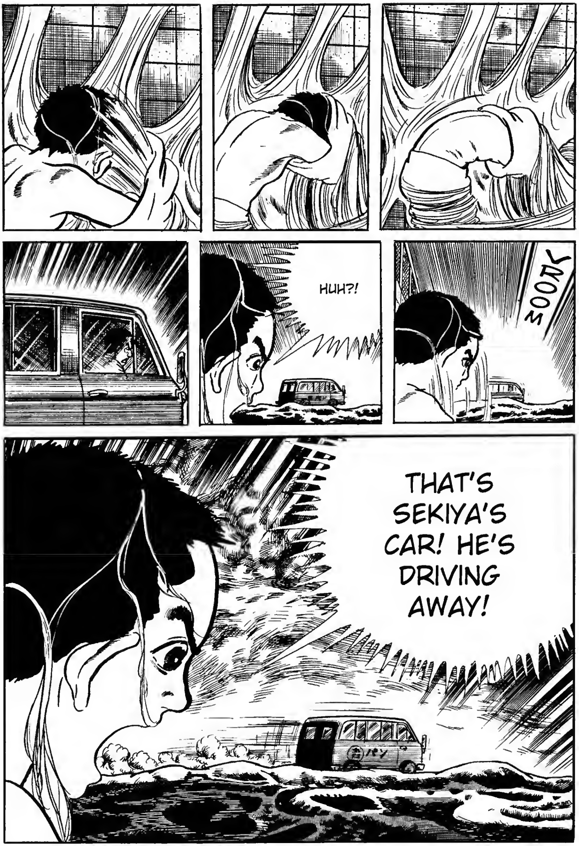

GYAAA!!!
AH!
A MONSTER!
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE, BOYS! GET IT!

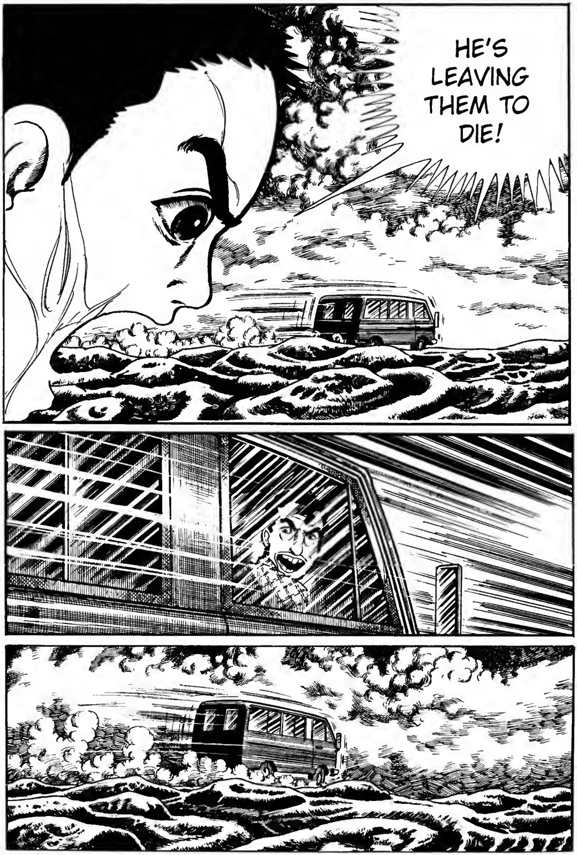

ALL RIGHT! THIS IS YOUR SCHOOL!
YOU HAVE TO DEFEND IT!
YES SIR!
RRRAGH!
REMEMBER MY TRAINING. HIT 'EM WITH EVERYTHING YOU GOT!
I'LL WATCH YOU FROM BACK HERE!
KRASH
NUMBER ONE, ATTACK!
RRAHH! DIE!

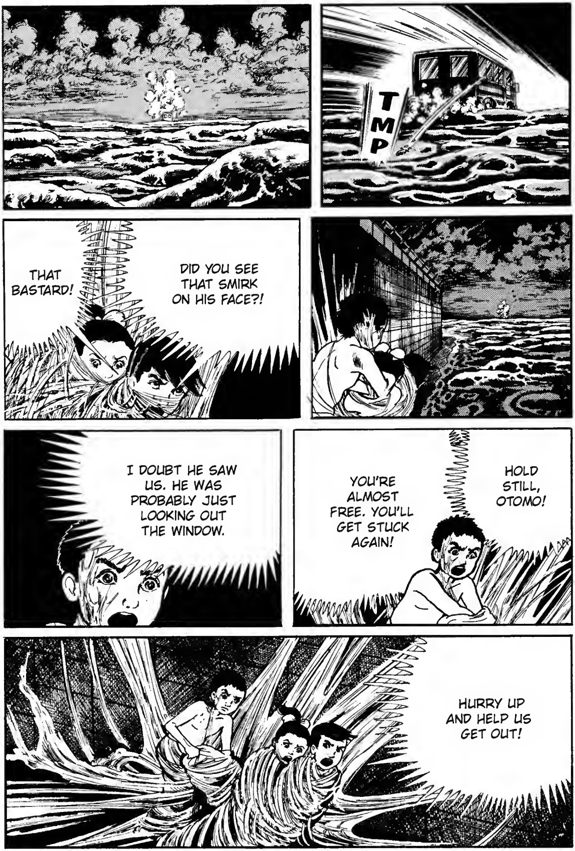

DOMM
KRAKK
NUMBER TWO, ATTACK!
GO GET THEM!
YES, SIR! NUMBER TWO!
TAKE THIS!

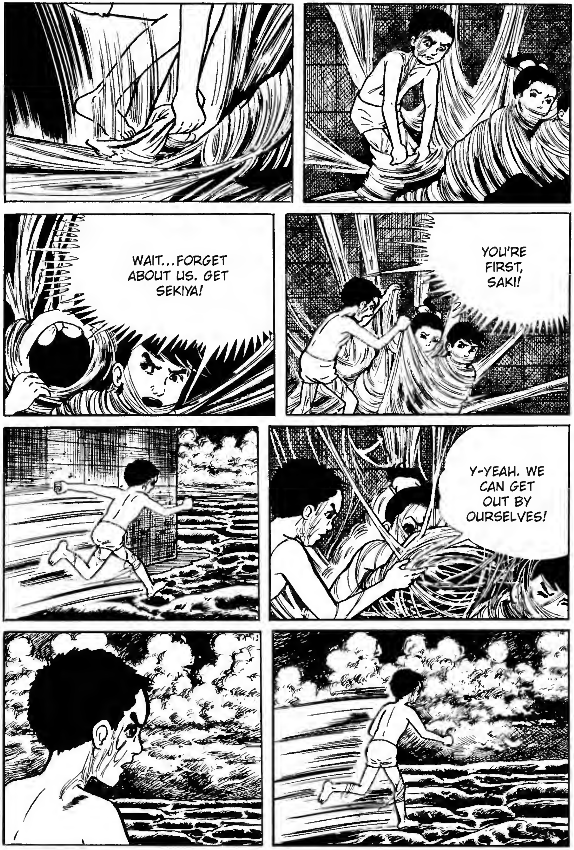

THUD
I'M NUMBER THREE!
YAHHH!!!
GIVE IT YOUR ALL!
GO, GO!
I'M NEXT! I'M NUMBER FOUR!

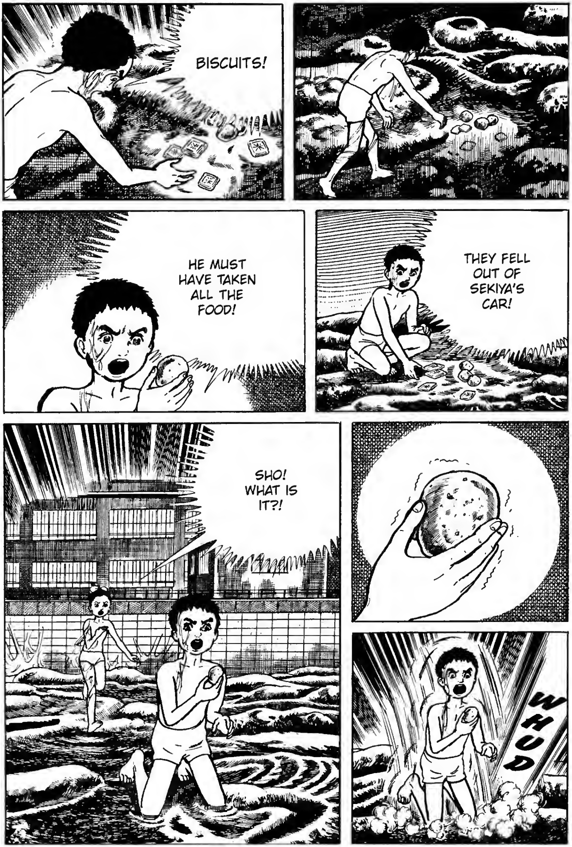

EYAA AAAA
THE MUTANTS ARE ATTACKING THEM!
I-I CAN'T BREATHE!
THE MORE I MOVE, THE TIGHTER IT GETS!
CALM DOWN!
THERE MIGHT BE A WAY TO GET LOOSE!
H-HOW ...?
WE HAVE TO TAKE OFF OUR CLOTHES!
WHAT?!
SLIP OUT OF YOUR CLOTHES GRADUALLY! THE WEBS WILL STICK TO THE CLOTHES! I'LL GO FIRST!

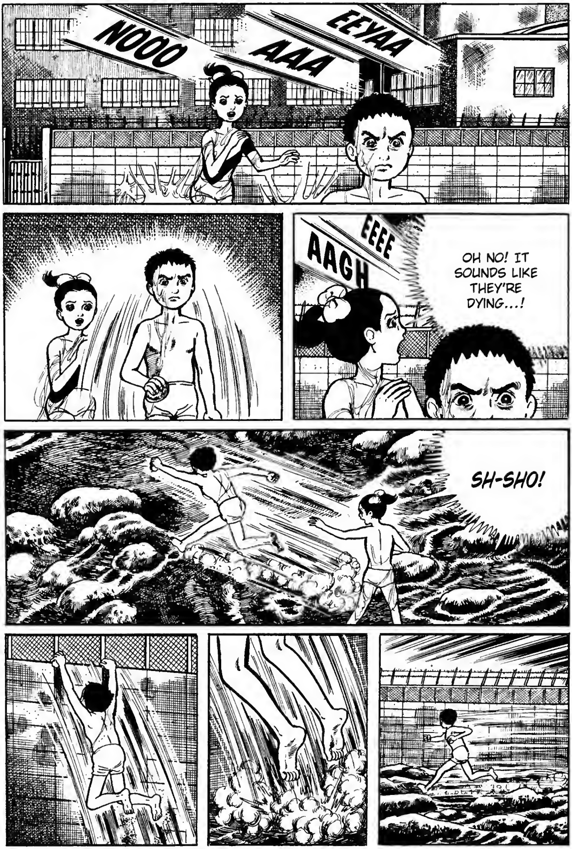

HUH?!
VROOM
THAT'S SEKIYA'S CAR! HE'S DRIVING AWAY!

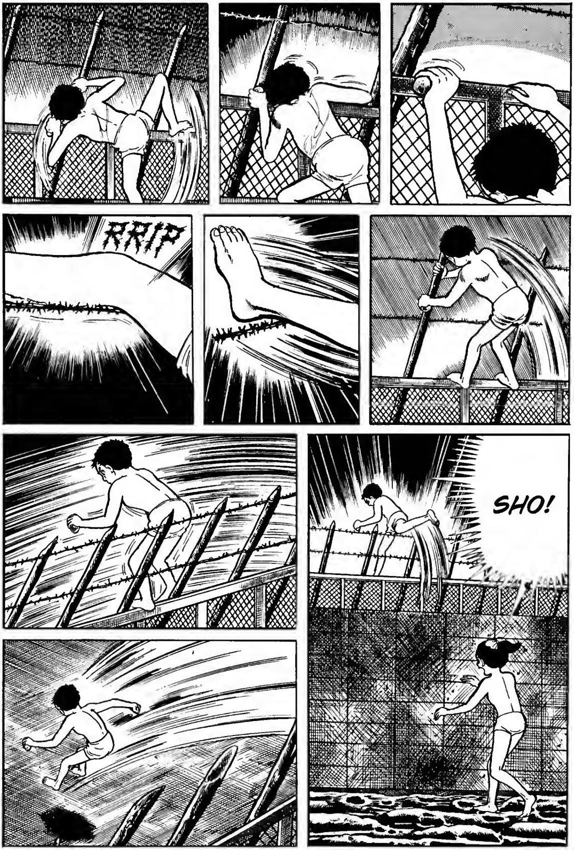

HE'S LEAVING THEM TO DIE!

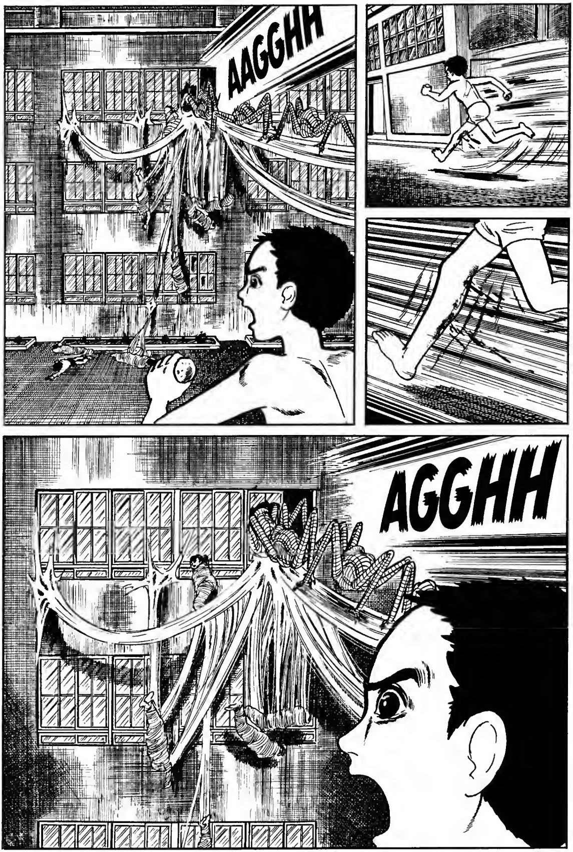

TMP
THAT BASTARD!
DID YOU SEE THAT SMIRK ON HIS FACE?!
I DOUBT HE SAW US. HE WAS PROBABLY JUST LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW.
HOLD STILL, OTOMO!
YOU'RE ALMOST FREE. YOU'LL GET STUCK AGAIN!
HURRY UP AND HELP US GET OUT!

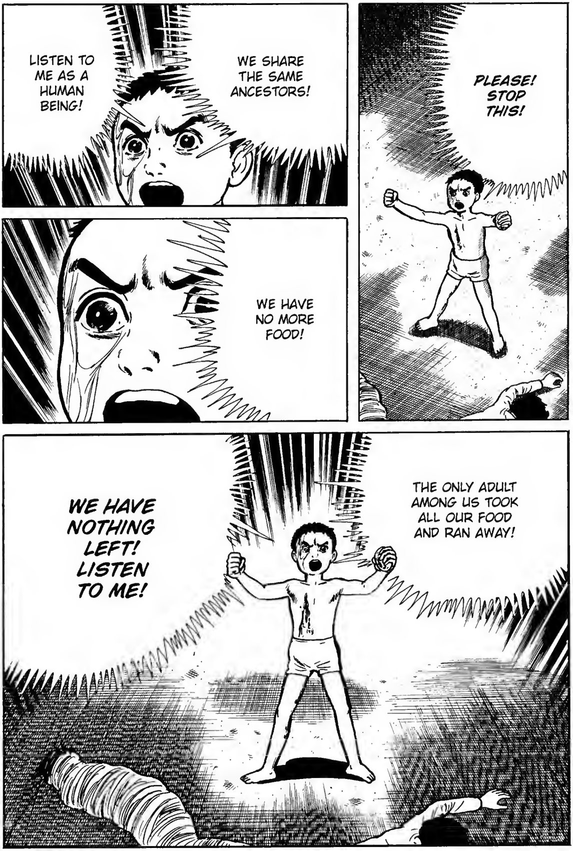

YOU'RE FIRST, SAKI!
WAIT...FORGET ABOUT US. GET SEKIYA!
Y-YEAH. WE CAN GET OUT BY OURSELVES!

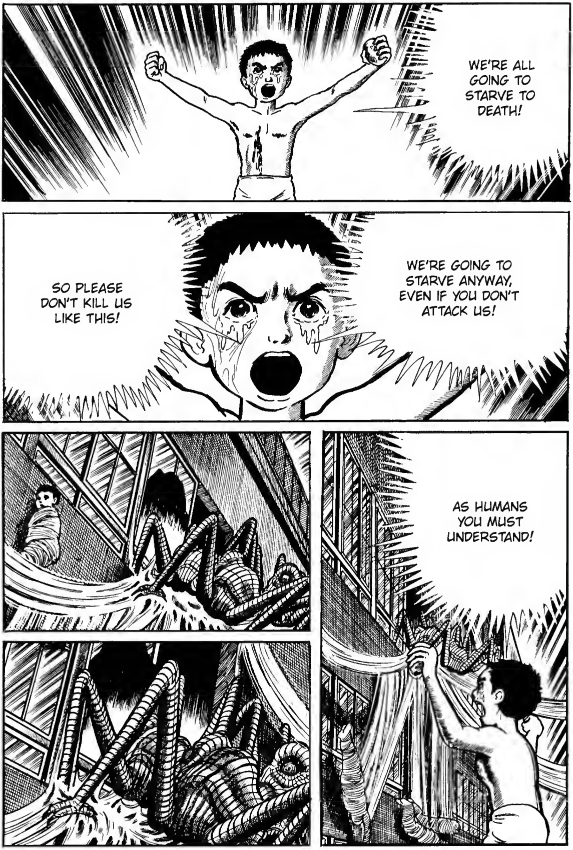

BISCUITS!
THEY FELL OUT OF SEKIYA'S CAR!
HE MUST HAVE TAKEN ALL THE FOOD!
WHUD
SHO! WHAT IS IT?!

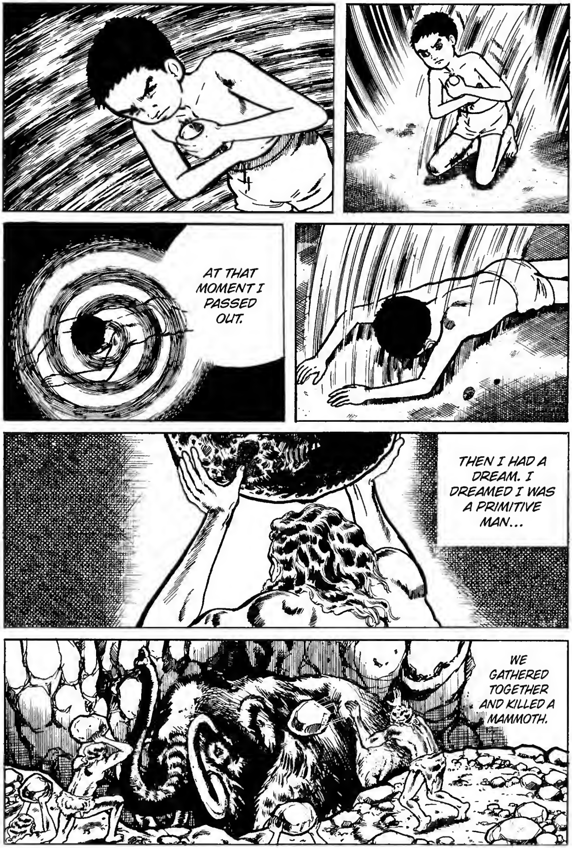

EEYAA
AAA
NOOO
EEEE
AAGH
OH NO! IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE DYING...!
SH-SHO!

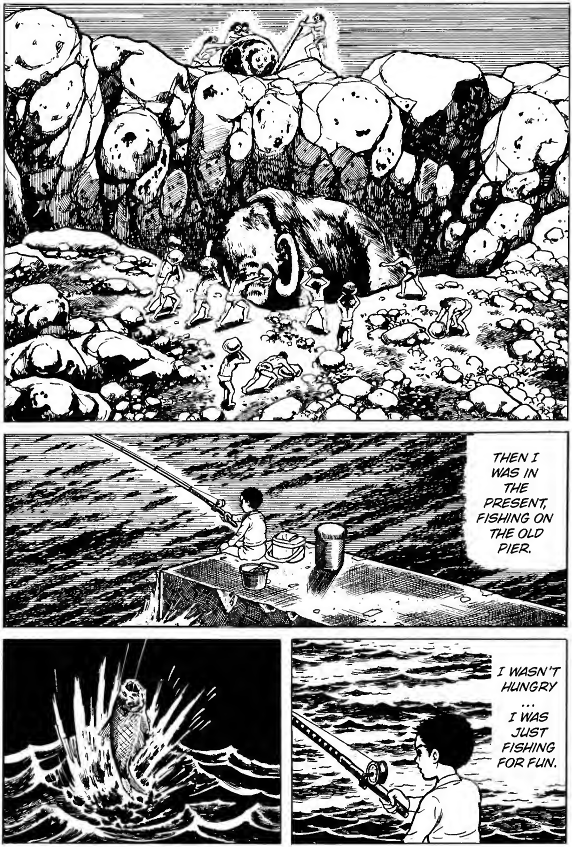

RRIP
SHO!

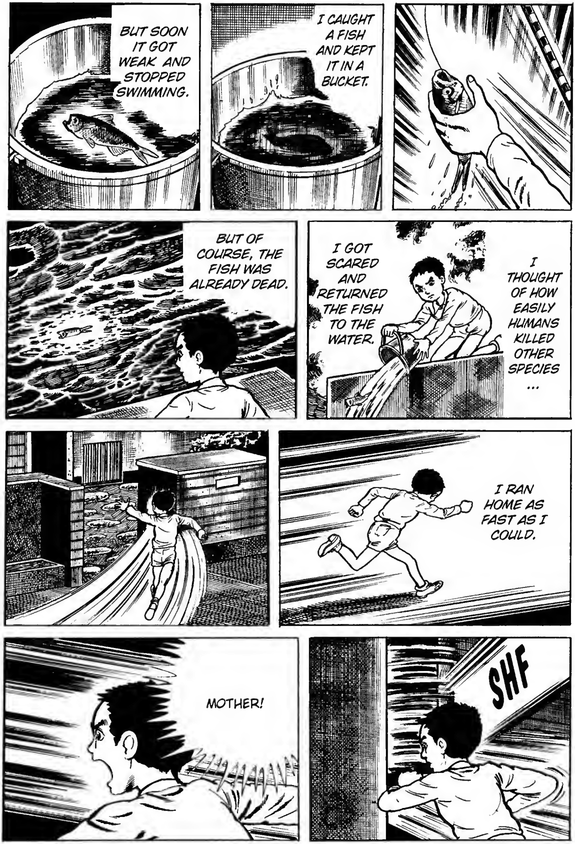

AAGGHH
AGGHH

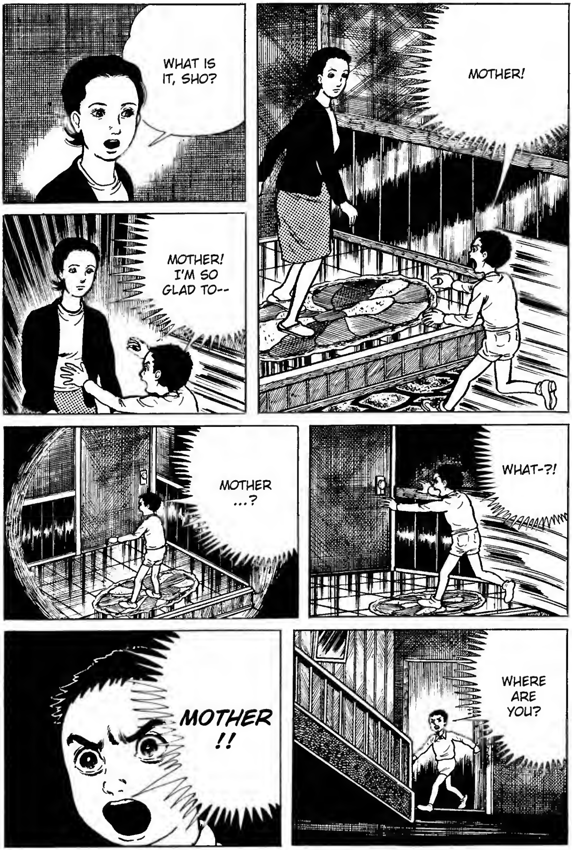

LISTEN TO ME AS A HUMAN BEING!
WE SHARE THE SAME ANCESTORS!
WE HAVE NO MORE FOOD!
PLEASE! STOP THIS!
WE HAVE NOTHING LEFT! LISTEN TO ME!
THE ONLY ADULT AMONG US TOOK ALL OUR FOOD AND RAN AWAY!

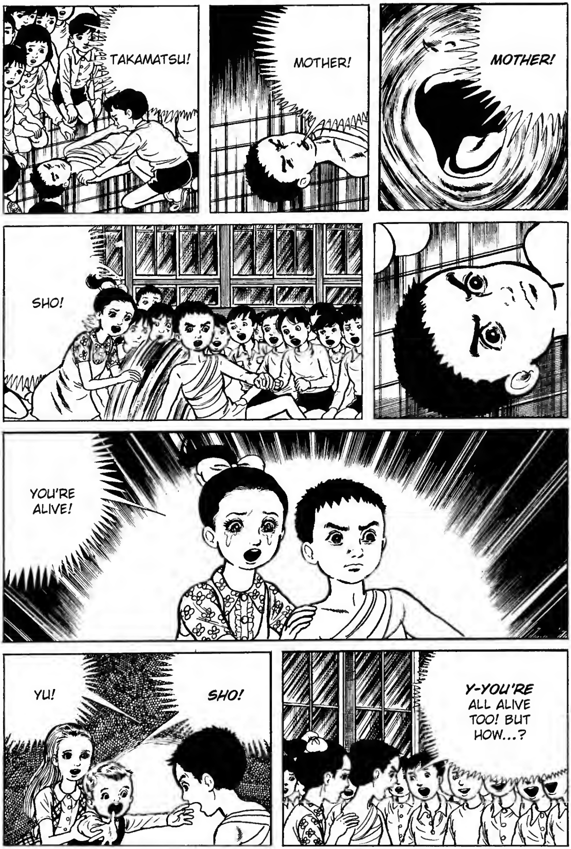

WE'RE ALL GOING TO STARVE TO DEATH!
WE'RE GOING TO STARVE ANYWAY, EVEN IF YOU DON'T ATTACK US!
SO PLEASE DON'T KILL US LIKE THIS!
AS HUMANS YOU MUST UNDERSTAND!

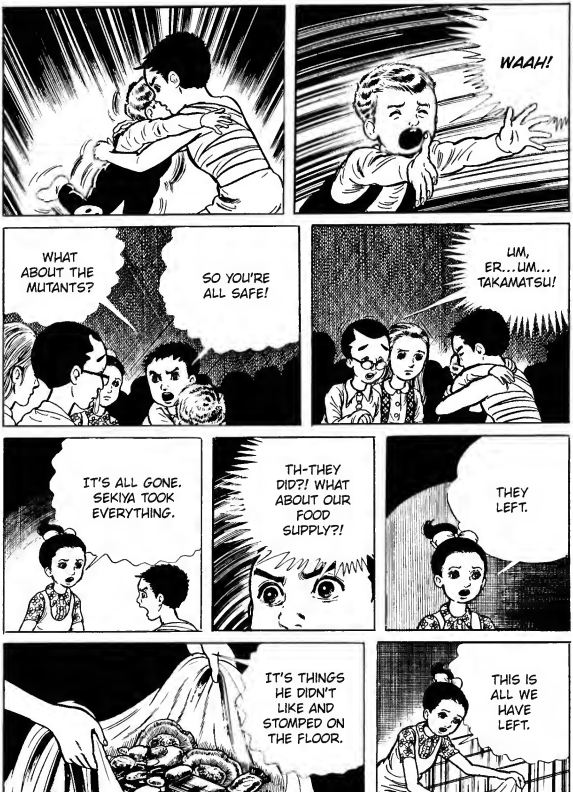

AT THAT MOMENT I PASSED OUT.
THEN I HAD A DREAM. I DREAMED I WAS A PRIMITIVE MAN...
WE GATHERED TOGETHER AND KILLED A MAMMOTH.

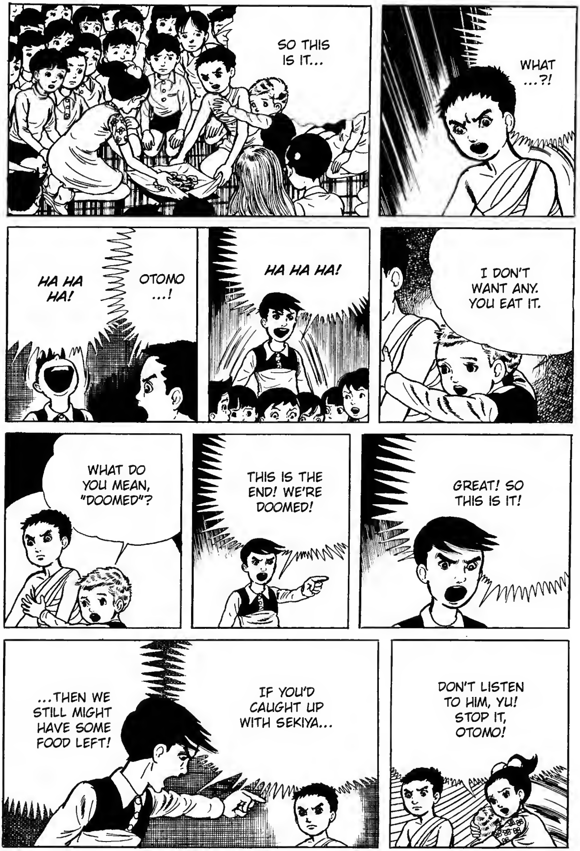

THEN I WAS IN THE PRESENT, FISHING ON THE OLD PIER.
I WASN'T HUNGRY ... I WAS JUST FISHING FOR FUN.

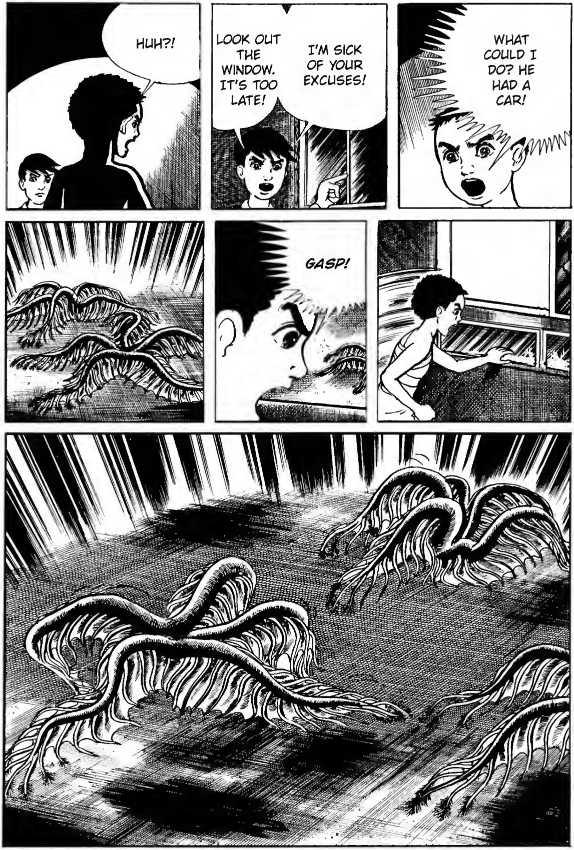

I CAUGHT A FISH AND KEPT IT IN A BUCKET.
BUT SOON IT GOT WEAK AND STOPPED SWIMMING.
I THOUGHT OF HOW EASILY HUMANS KILLED OTHER SPECIES ...
I GOT SCARED AND RETURNED THE FISH TO THE WATER.
BUT OF COURSE, THE FISH WAS ALREADY DEAD.
I RAN HOME AS FAST AS I COULD.
SHF
MOTHER!

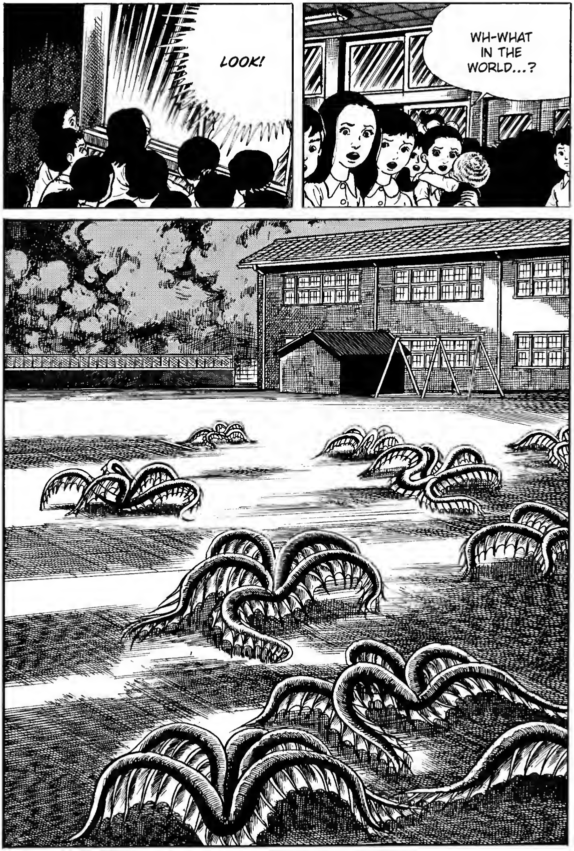

MOTHER!
WHAT IS IT, SHO?
MOTHER! I'M SO GLAD TO--
WHAT-?!
MOTHER ...?
WHERE ARE YOU?
MOTHER !!

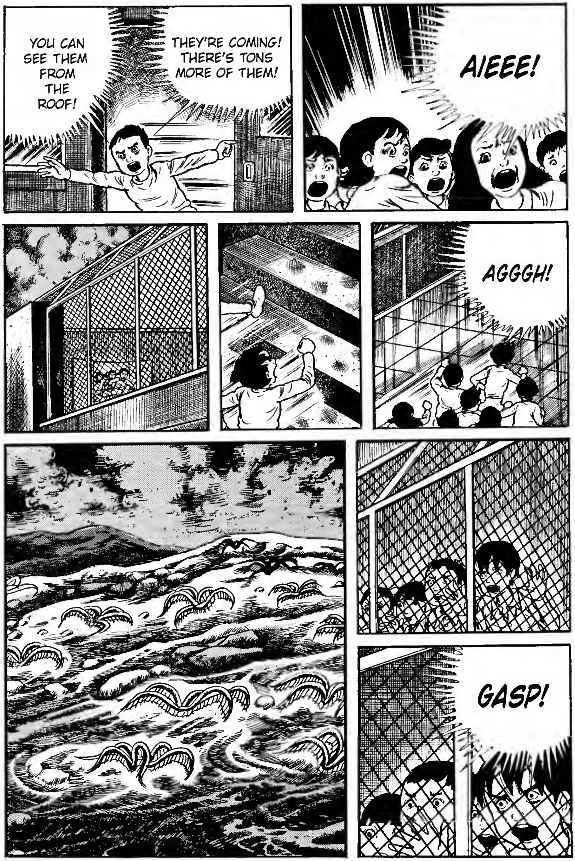

TAKAMATSU!
MOTHER!
MOTHER!
SHO!
YOU'RE ALIVE!
YU!
SHO!
Y-YOU'RE ALL ALIVE TOO! BUT HOW...?

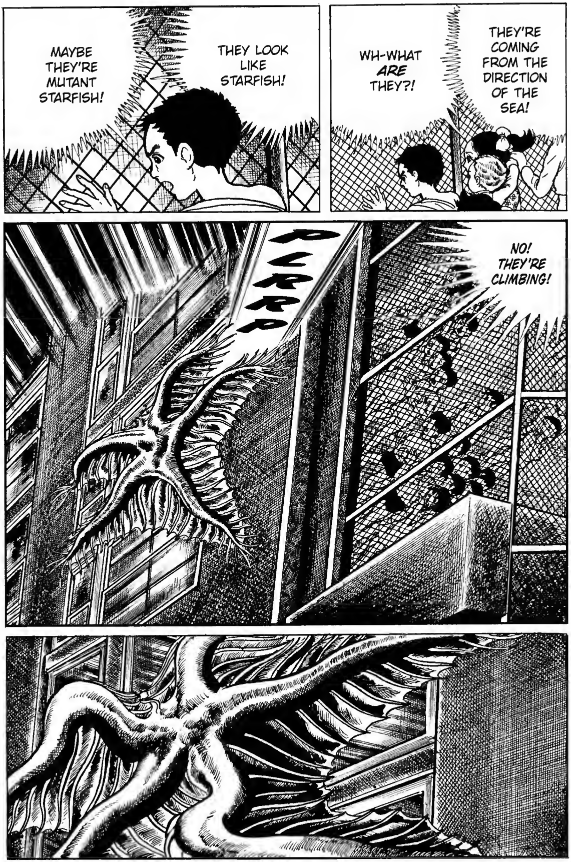

WAAH!
UM, ER...UM... TAKAMATSU!
SO YOU'RE ALL SAFE!
WHAT ABOUT THE MUTANTS?
THEY LEFT.
TH-THEY DID?! WHAT ABOUT OUR FOOD SUPPLY?!
IT'S ALL GONE. SEKIYA TOOK EVERYTHING.
THIS IS ALL WE HAVE LEFT.
IT'S THINGS HE DIDN'T LIKE AND STOMPED ON THE FLOOR.

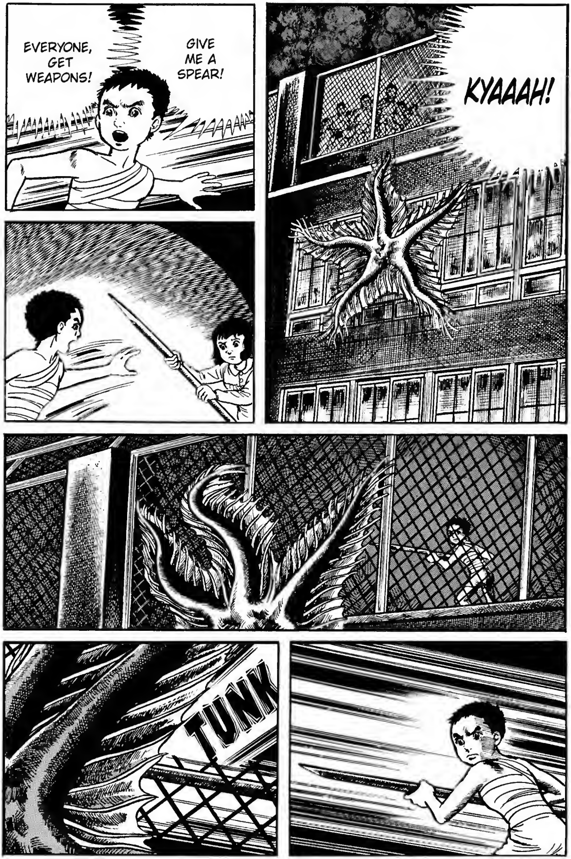

SO THIS IS IT...
WHAT ...?!
HA HA HA!
OTOMO ...!
HA HA HA!
I DON'T WANT ANY. YOU EAT IT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "DOOMED"?
THIS IS THE END! WE'RE DOOMED!
GREAT! SO THIS IS IT!
IF YOU'D CAUGHT UP WITH SEKIYA...
...THEN WE STILL MIGHT HAVE SOME FOOD LEFT!
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, YU! STOP IT, OTOMO!

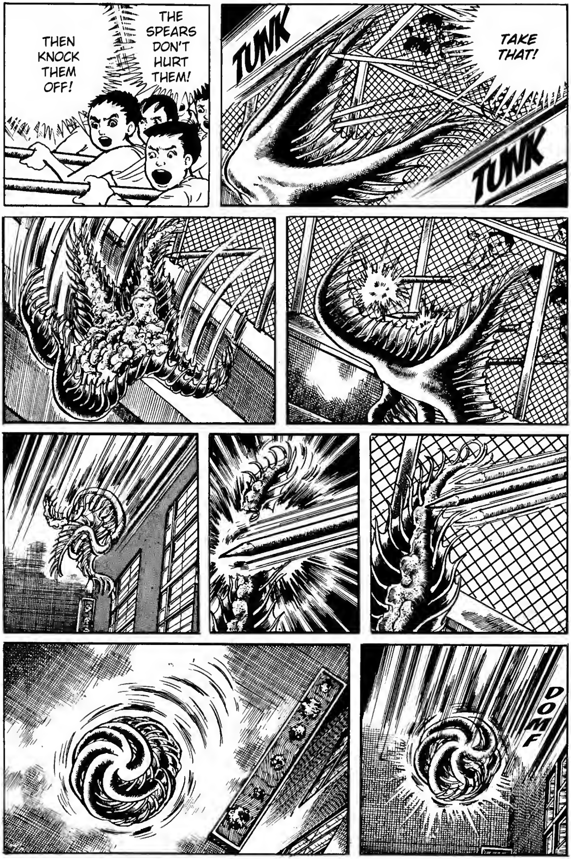

WHAT COULD I DO? HE HAD A CAR!
I'M SICK OF YOUR EXCUSES!
LOOK OUT THE WINDOW. IT'S TOO LATE!
HUH?!
GASP!

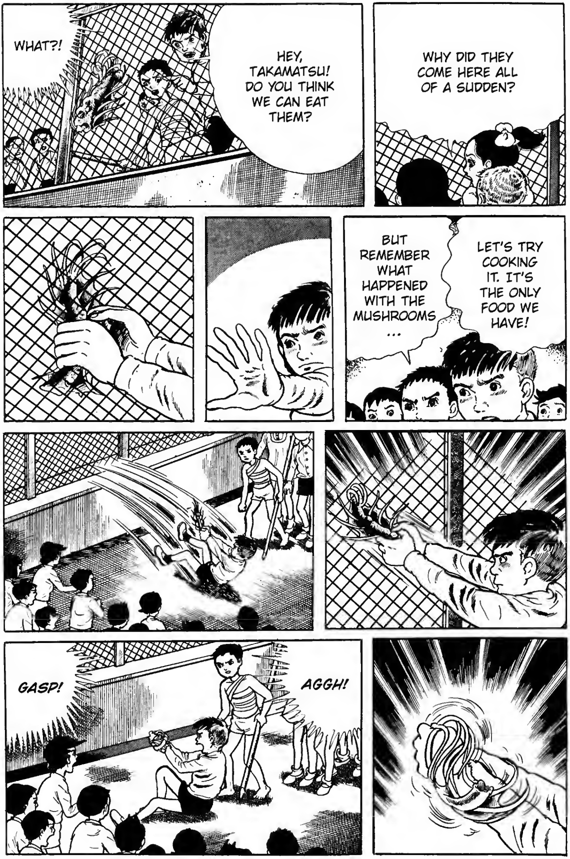

LOOK!
WH-WHAT IN THE WORLD...?

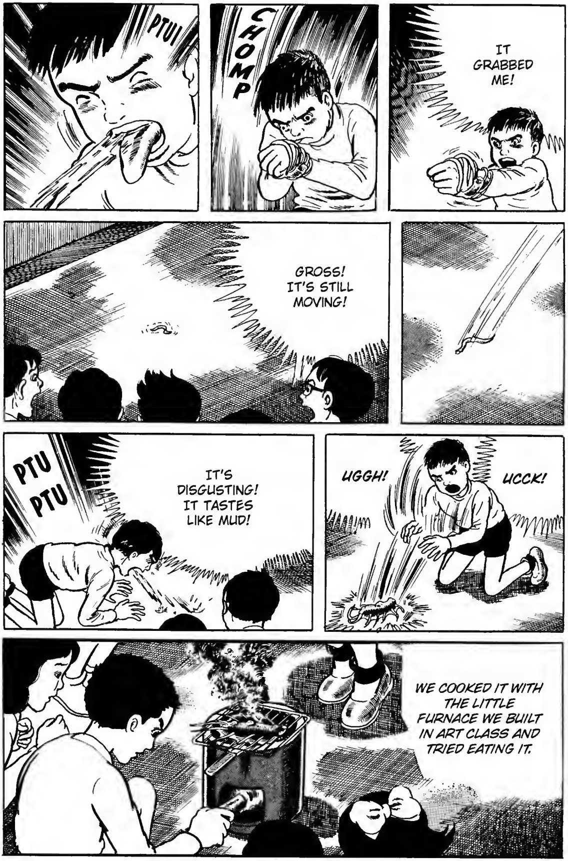

YOU CAN SEE THEM FROM THE ROOF!
THEY'RE COMING! THERE'S TONS MORE OF THEM!
AIEEE!
AGGGH!
GASP!

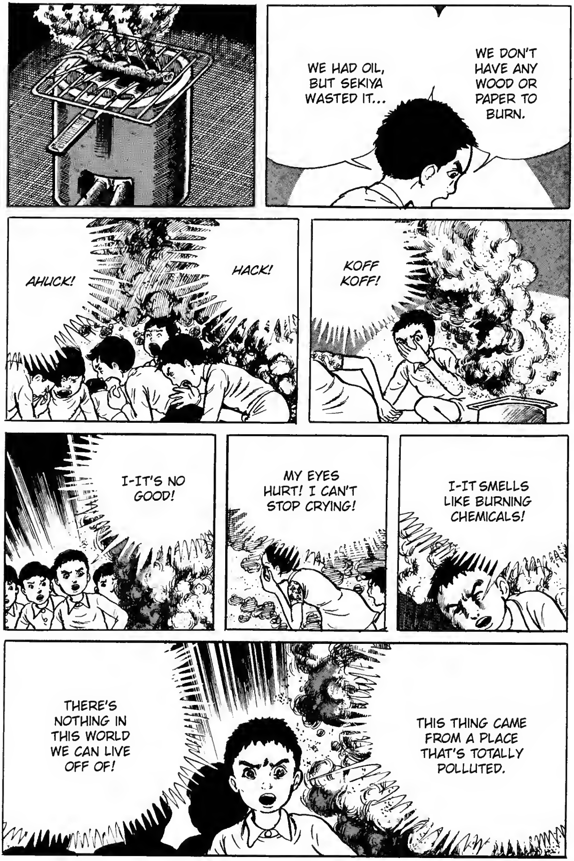

THEY'RE COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE SEA!
WH-WHAT *ARE* THEY?!
THEY LOOK LIKE STARFISH!
MAYBE THEY'RE MUTANT STARFISH!
NO! THEY'RE CLIMBING!
PLRRP

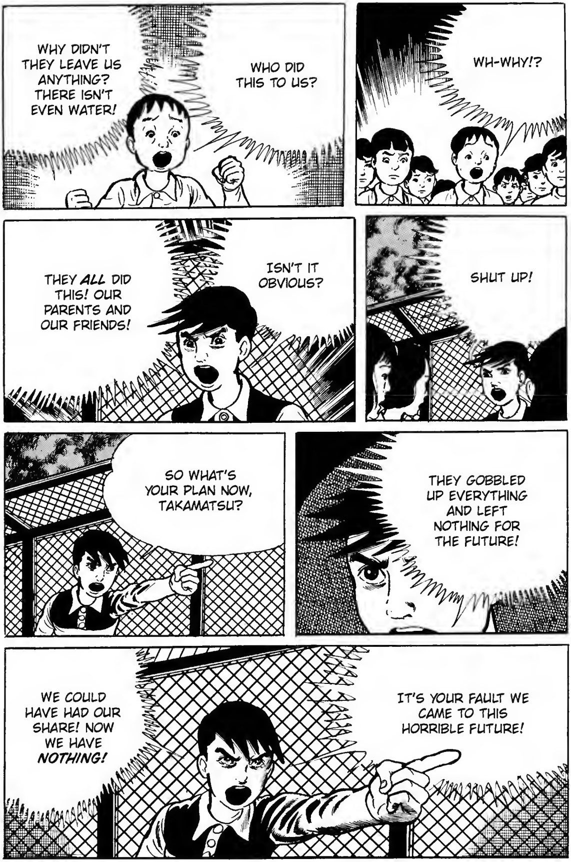

EVERYONE, GET WEAPONS!
GIVE ME A SPEAR!
KYAAAH!
TUNK

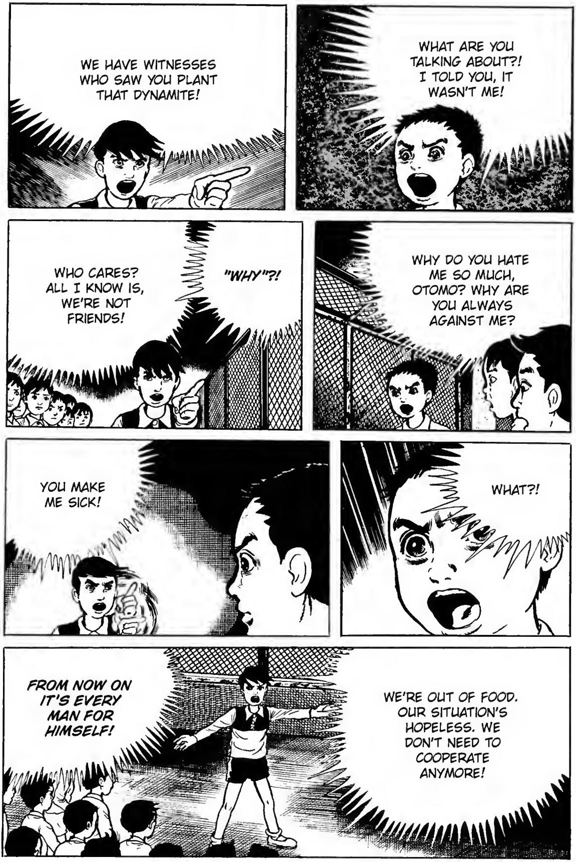

THE SPEARS DON'T HURT THEM!
THEN KNOCK THEM OFF!
TUNK
TAKE THAT!
TUNK
DOMF

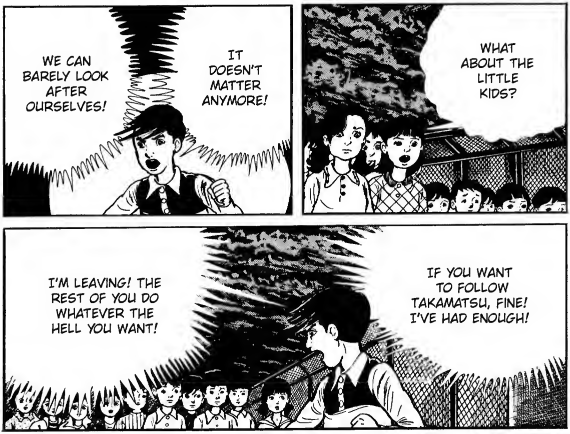

WHAT?!
HEY, TAKAMATSU! DO YOU THINK WE CAN EAT THEM?
WHY DID THEY COME HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN?
LET'S TRY COOKING IT. IT'S THE ONLY FOOD WE HAVE!
BUT REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE MUSHROOMS ...
GASP!
AGGH!


PTUI
CHOMP
IT GRABBED ME!
GROSS! IT'S STILL MOVING!
PTU PTU
IT'S DISGUSTING! IT TASTES LIKE MUD!
UGGH!
UCCK!
WE COOKED IT WITH THE LITTLE FURNACE WE BUILT IN ART CLASS AND TRIED EATING IT.


WE DON'T HAVE ANY WOOD OR PAPER TO BURN.
WE HAD OIL, BUT SEKIYA WASTED IT...
KOFF KOFF!
HACK!
AHUCK!
I-IT SMELLS LIKE BURNING CHEMICALS!
MY EYES HURT! I CAN'T STOP CRYING!
I-IT'S NO GOOD!
THIS THING CAME FROM A PLACE THAT'S TOTALLY POLLUTED.
THERE'S NOTHING IN THIS WORLD WE CAN LIVE OFF OF!

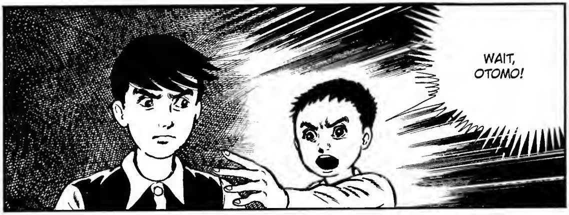

WH-WHY!?
WHO DID THIS TO US?
WHY DIDN'T THEY LEAVE US ANYTHING? THERE ISN'T EVEN WATER!
SHUT UP!
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?
THEY *ALL* DID THIS! OUR PARENTS AND OUR FRIENDS!
THEY GOBBLED UP EVERYTHING AND LEFT NOTHING FOR THE FUTURE!
SO WHAT'S YOUR PLAN NOW, TAKAMATSU?
IT'S YOUR FAULT WE CAME TO THIS HORRIBLE FUTURE!
WE COULD HAVE HAD OUR SHARE! NOW WE HAVE *NOTHING!*

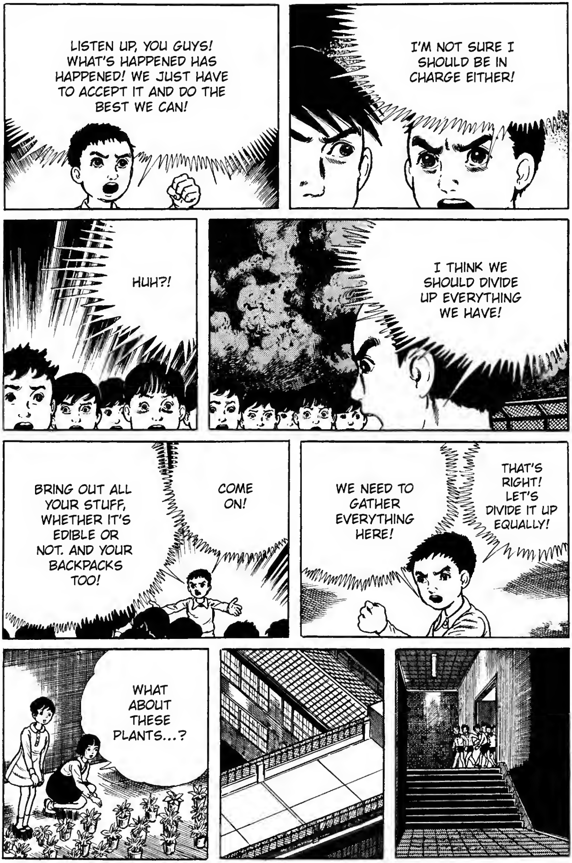

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! I TOLD YOU, IT WASN'T ME!
WE HAVE WITNESSES WHO SAW YOU PLANT THAT DYNAMITE!
WHY DO YOU HATE ME SO MUCH, OTOMO? WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS AGAINST ME?
"WHY"?!
WHO CARES? ALL I KNOW IS, WE'RE NOT FRIENDS!
WHAT?!
YOU MAKE ME SICK!
WE'RE OUT OF FOOD. OUR SITUATION'S HOPELESS. WE DON'T NEED TO COOPERATE ANYMORE!
FROM NOW ON IT'S EVERY MAN FOR HIMSELF!

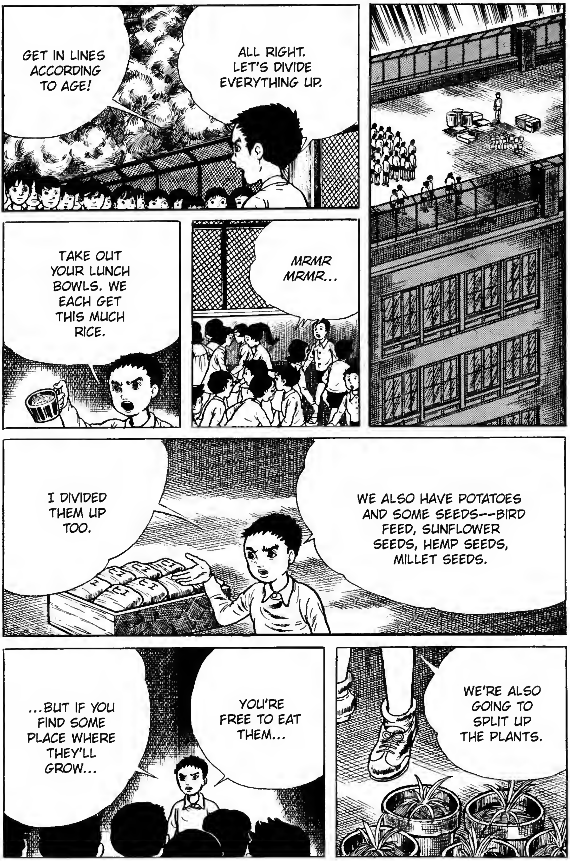

WHAT ABOUT THE LITTLE KIDS?
IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE!
WE CAN BARELY LOOK AFTER OURSELVES!
IF YOU WANT TO FOLLOW TAKAMATSU, FINE! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
I'M LEAVING! THE REST OF YOU DO WHATEVER THE HELL YOU WANT!

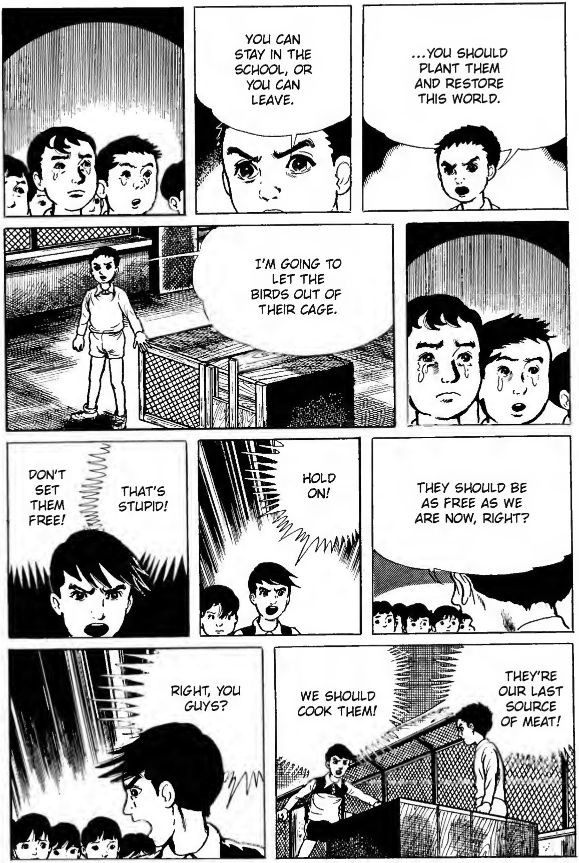
CHAPTER 35:

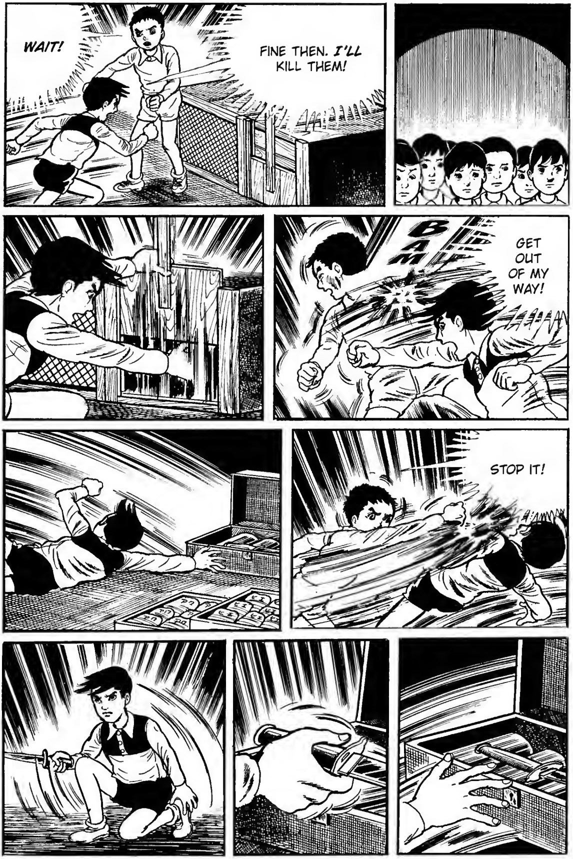
THE END OF FRIENDSHIP

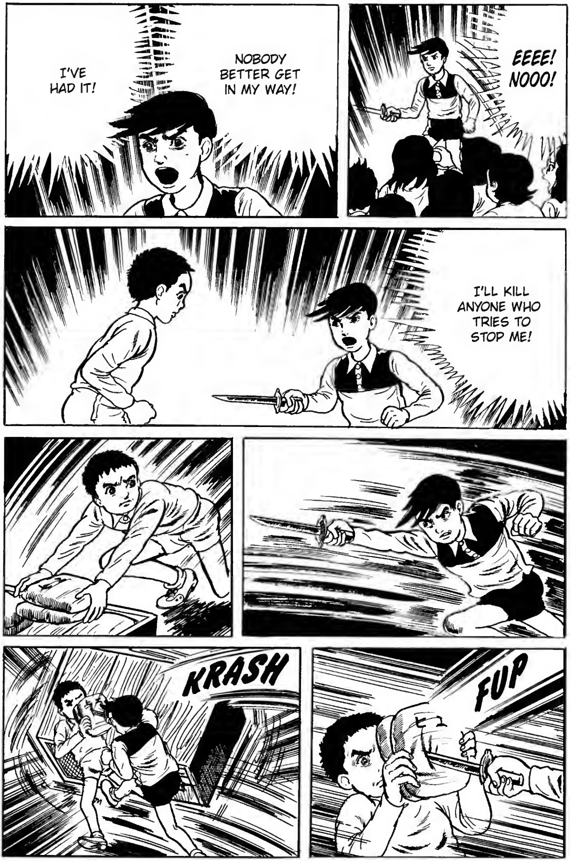


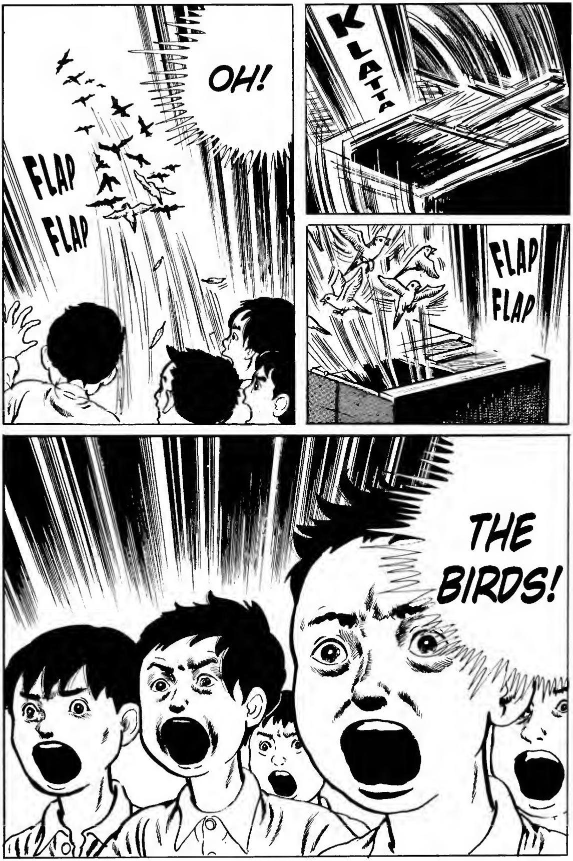

LISTEN UP, YOU GUYS! WHAT'S HAPPENED HAS HAPPENED! WE JUST HAVE TO ACCEPT IT AND DO THE BEST WE CAN!
I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD BE IN CHARGE EITHER!
HUH?!
I THINK WE SHOULD DIVIDE UP EVERYTHING WE HAVE!
COME ON!
BRING OUT ALL YOUR STUFF, WHETHER IT'S EDIBLE OR NOT. AND YOUR BACKPACKS TOO!
THAT'S RIGHT! LET'S DIVIDE IT UP EQUALLY!
WE NEED TO GATHER EVERYTHING HERE!
WHAT ABOUT THESE PLANTS...?

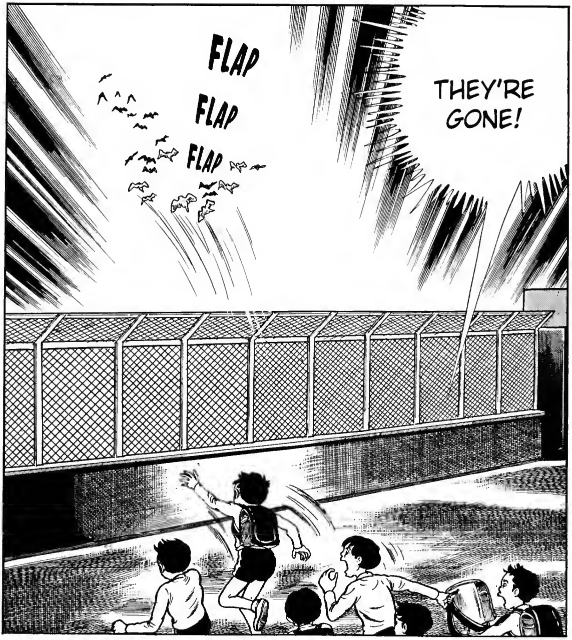

ALL RIGHT. LET'S DIVIDE EVERYTHING UP.
GET IN LINES ACCORDING TO AGE!
MRMR MRMR...
TAKE OUT YOUR LUNCH BOWLS. WE EACH GET THIS MUCH RICE.
WE ALSO HAVE POTATOES AND SOME SEEDS--BIRD FEED, SUNFLOWER SEEDS, HEMP SEEDS, MILLET SEEDS.
I DIVIDED THEM UP TOO.
WE'RE ALSO GOING TO SPLIT UP THE PLANTS.
YOU'RE FREE TO EAT THEM...
...BUT IF YOU FIND SOME PLACE WHERE THEY'LL GROW...

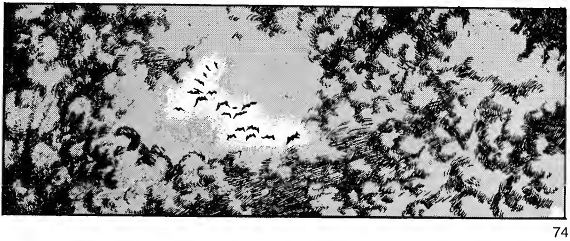

YOU CAN STAY IN THE SCHOOL, OR YOU CAN LEAVE.
...YOU SHOULD PLANT THEM AND RESTORE THIS WORLD.
I'M GOING TO LET THE BIRDS OUT OF THEIR CAGE.
DON'T SET THEM FREE!
THAT'S STUPID!
HOLD ON!
THEY SHOULD BE AS FREE AS WE ARE NOW, RIGHT?
RIGHT, YOU GUYS?
WE SHOULD COOK THEM!
THEY'RE OUR LAST SOURCE OF MEAT!

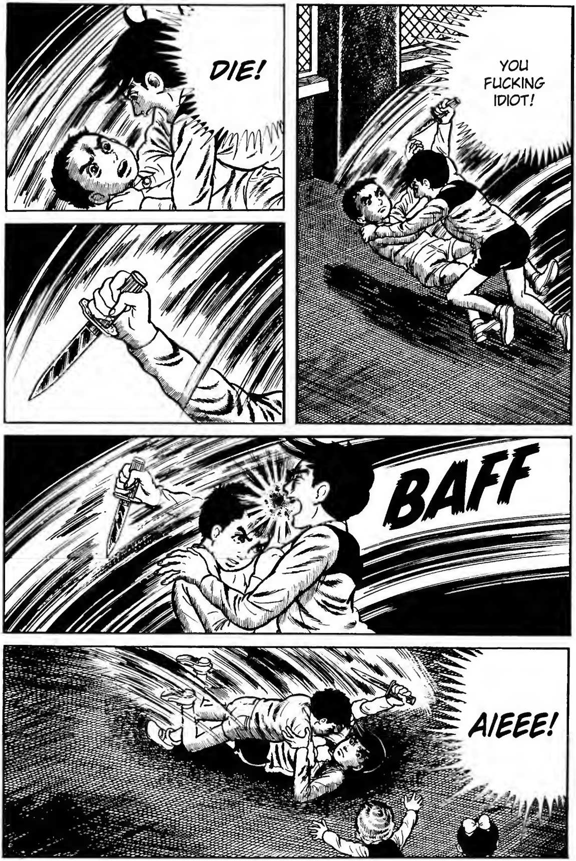

WAIT!
FINE THEN. I'LL KILL THEM!
BAM
GET OUT OF MY WAY!
STOP IT!

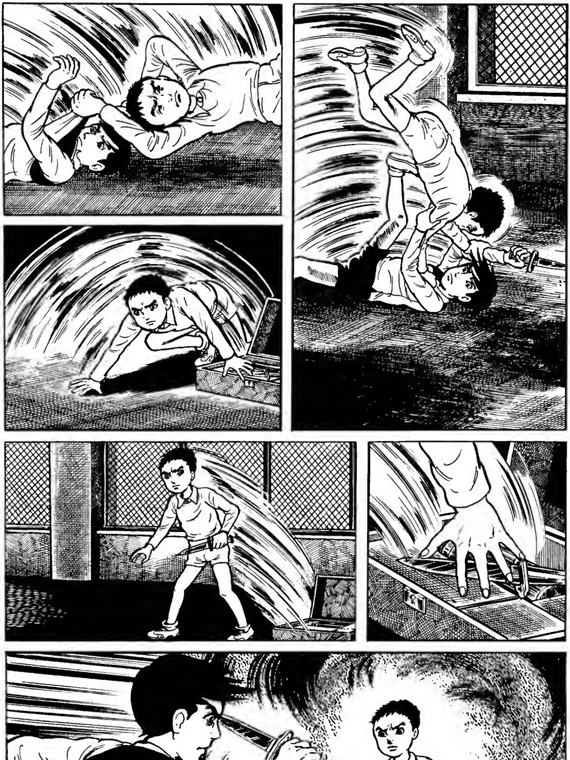

I'VE HAD IT!
NOBODY BETTER GET IN MY WAY!
EEEE! NOOO!
I'LL KILL ANYONE WHO TRIES TO STOP ME!
KRASH
FUP
ヒュ

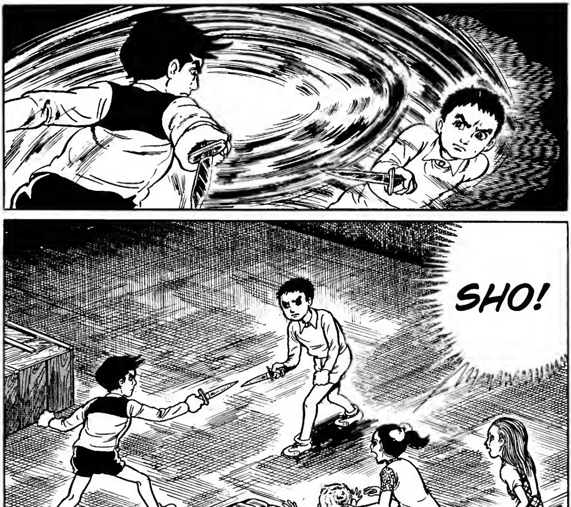

OH!
FLAP
FLAP
KLATTA
FLAP
FLAP
THE BIRDS!

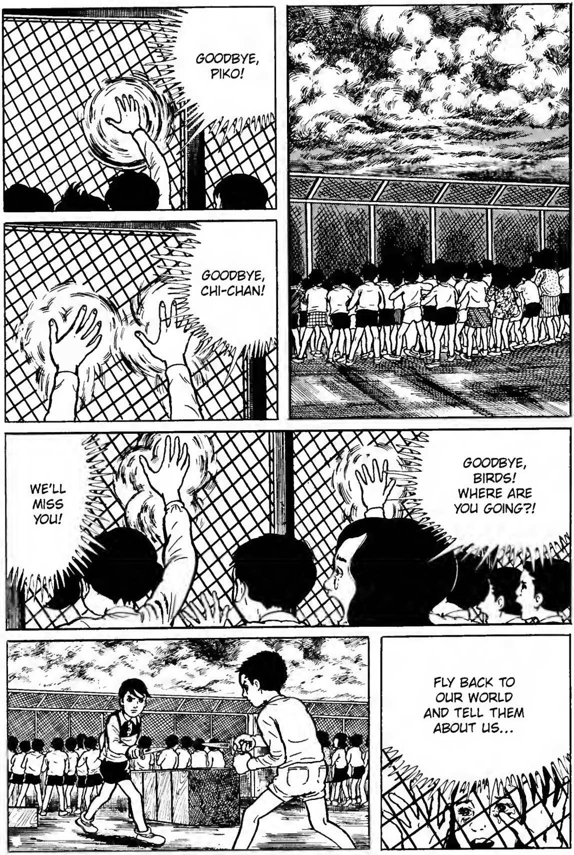

FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
THEY'RE GONE!

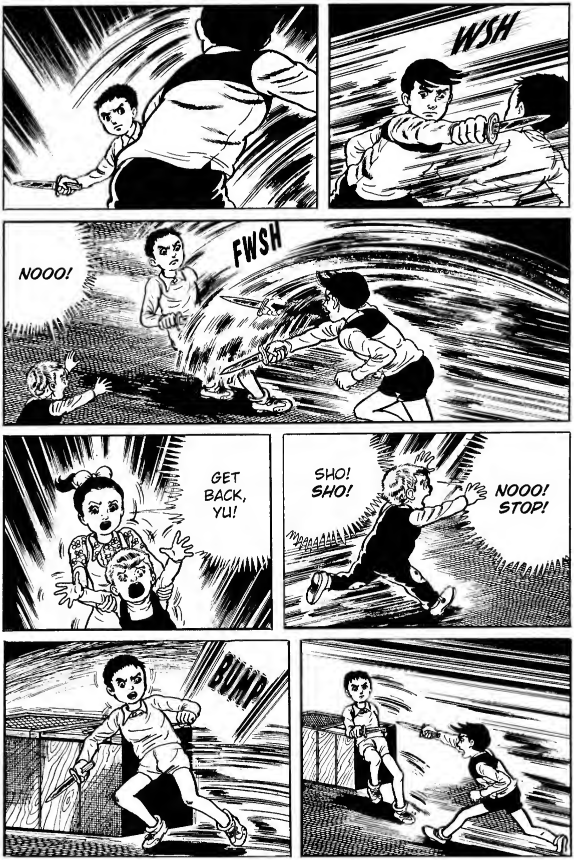


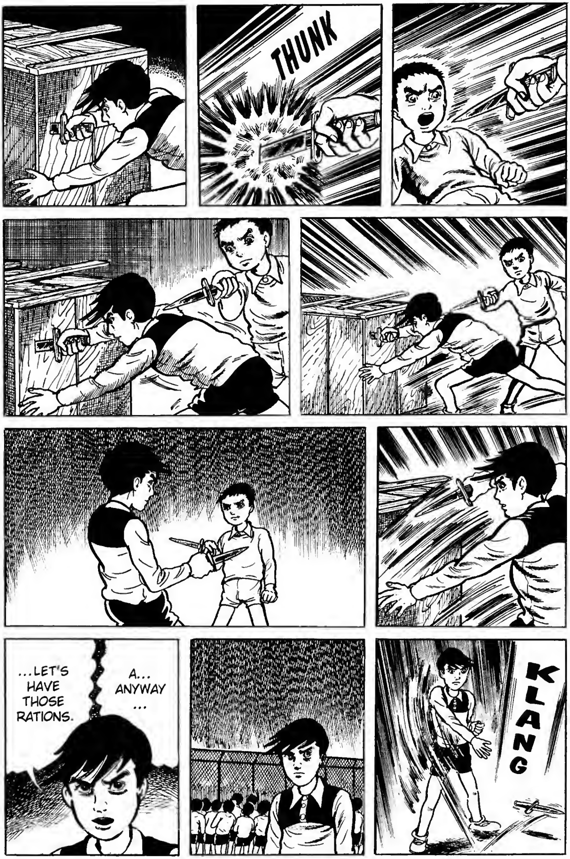

DIE!
YOU FUCKING IDIOT!
BAFF
AIEEE!

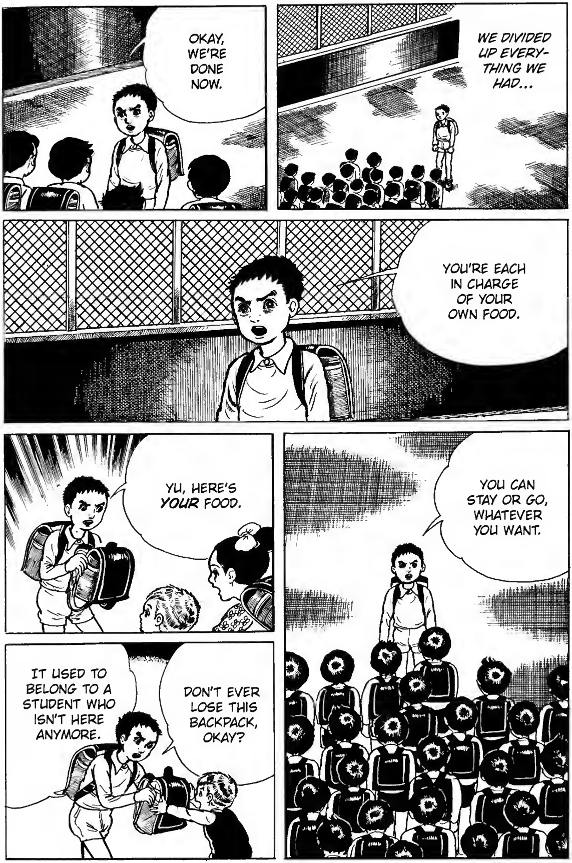


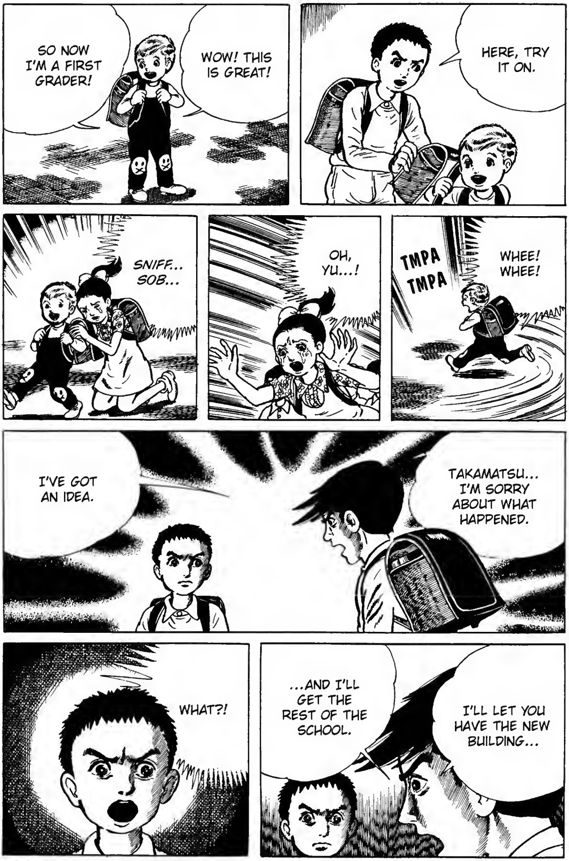

SHO!
THE BIRDS ...!

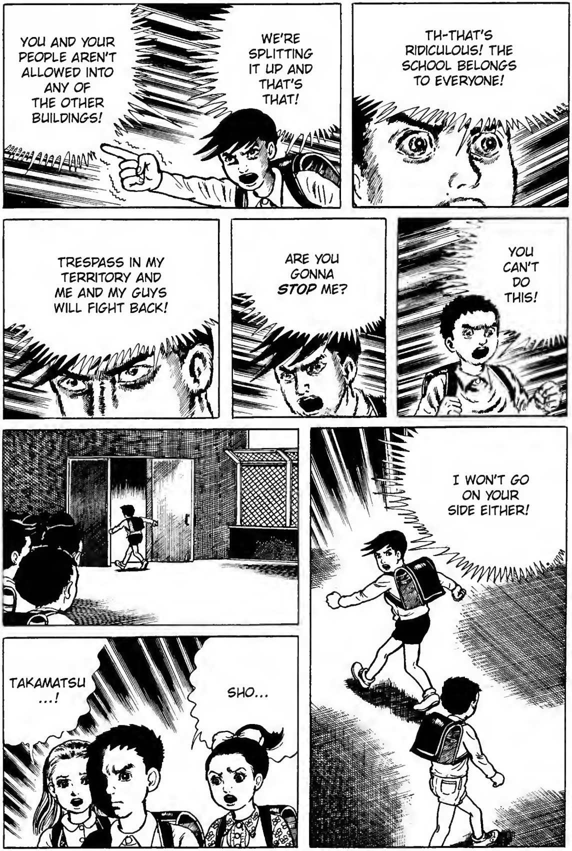

GOODBYE, PIKO!
GOODBYE, CHI-CHAN!
WE'LL MISS YOU!
GOODBYE, BIRDS! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
FLY BACK TO OUR WORLD AND TELL THEM ABOUT US...

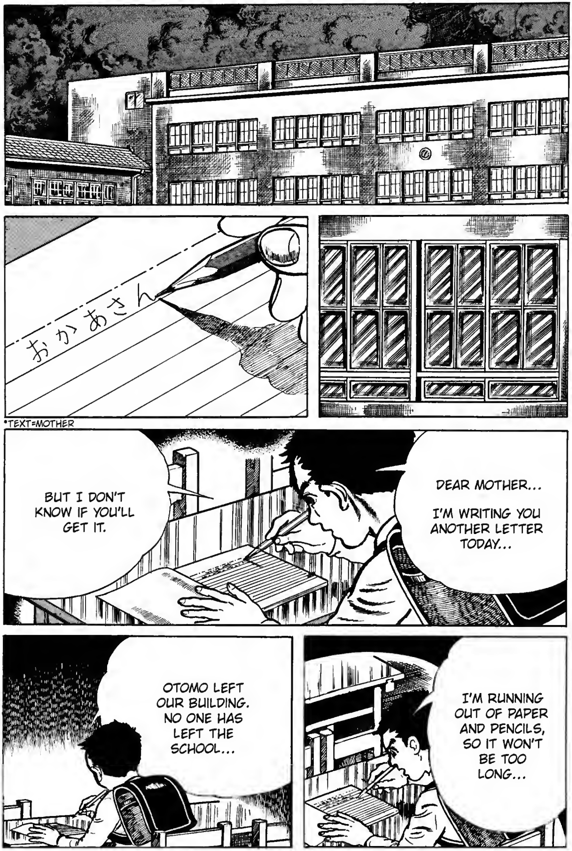

WSH
NOOO!
FWSH
GET BACK, YU!
SHO! SHO!
NOOO! STOP!
BUMP


THUNK
A... ANYWAY...
...LET'S HAVE THOSE RATIONS.
KLANG


OKAY, WE'RE DONE NOW.
WE DIVIDED UP EVERYTHING WE HAD...
YOU'RE EACH IN CHARGE OF YOUR OWN FOOD.
YU, HERE'S ***YOUR*** FOOD.
IT USED TO BELONG TO A STUDENT WHO ISN'T HERE ANYMORE.
DON'T EVER LOSE THIS BACKPACK, OKAY?
YOU CAN STAY OR GO, WHATEVER YOU WANT.

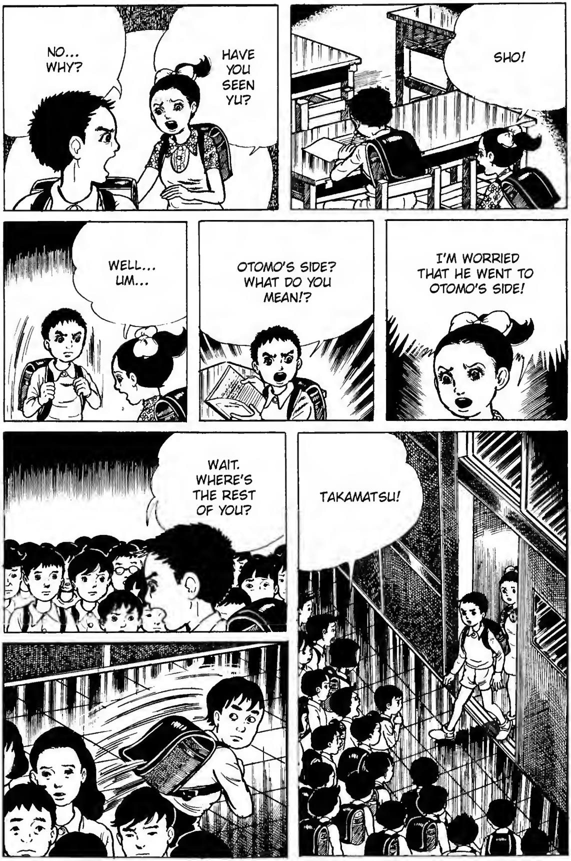

HERE, TRY IT ON.
WOW! THIS IS GREAT!
SO NOW I'M A FIRST GRADER!
WHEE! WHEE!
TMPA TMPA
OH, YU...!
SNIFF... SOB...
TAKAMATSU... I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.
I'VE GOT AN IDEA.
I'LL LET YOU HAVE THE NEW BUILDING...
...AND I'LL GET THE REST OF THE SCHOOL.
WHAT?!

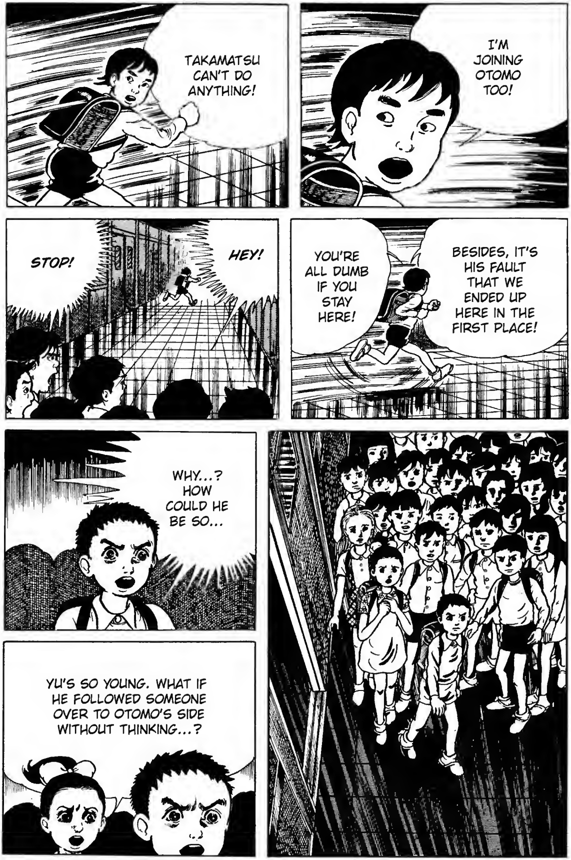

YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE AREN'T ALLOWED INTO ANY OF THE OTHER BUILDINGS!
WE'RE SPLITTING IT UP AND THAT'S THAT!
TH-THAT'S RIDICULOUS! THE SCHOOL BELONGS TO EVERYONE!
TRESPASS IN MY TERRITORY AND ME AND MY GUYS WILL FIGHT BACK!
ARE YOU GONNA *STOP* ME?
YOU CAN'T DO THIS!
I WON'T GO ON YOUR SIDE EITHER!
TAKAMATSU ...!
SHO...

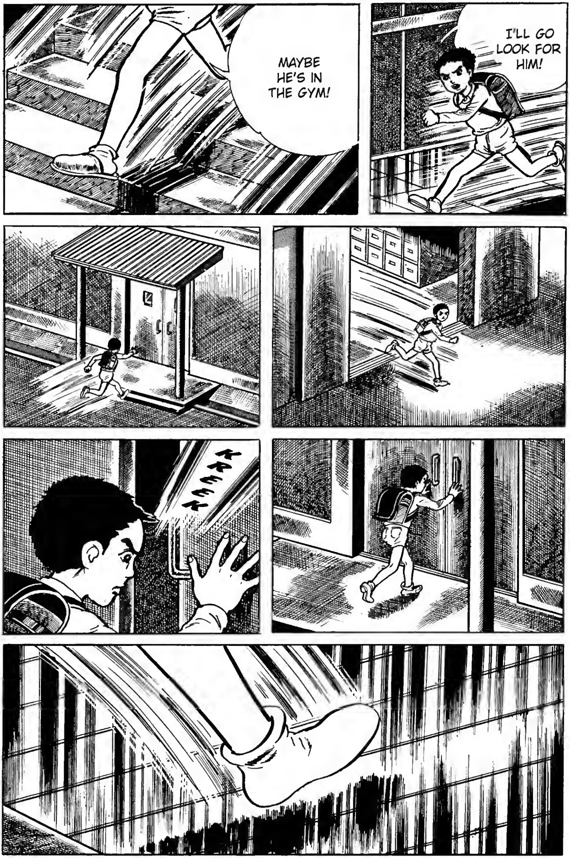

おかあさん
DEAR MOTHER...

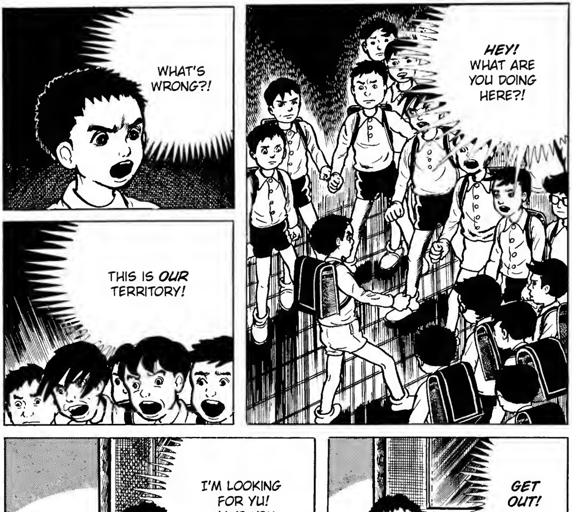
I'M WRITING YOU ANOTHER LETTER TODAY...
BUT I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'LL GET IT.
I'M RUNNING OUT OF PAPER AND PENCILS, SO IT WON'T BE TOO LONG...
OTOMO LEFT OUR BUILDING. NO ONE HAS LEFT THE SCHOOL...

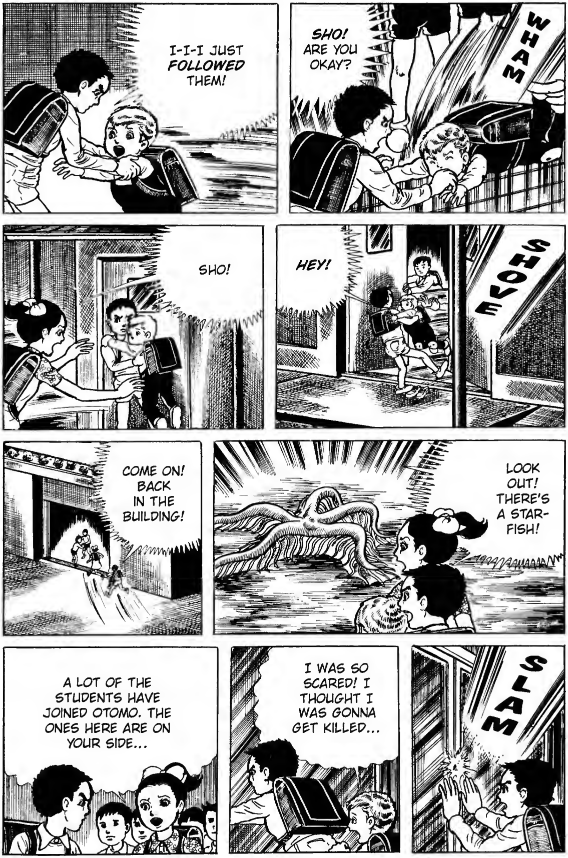
*TEXT=MOTHER

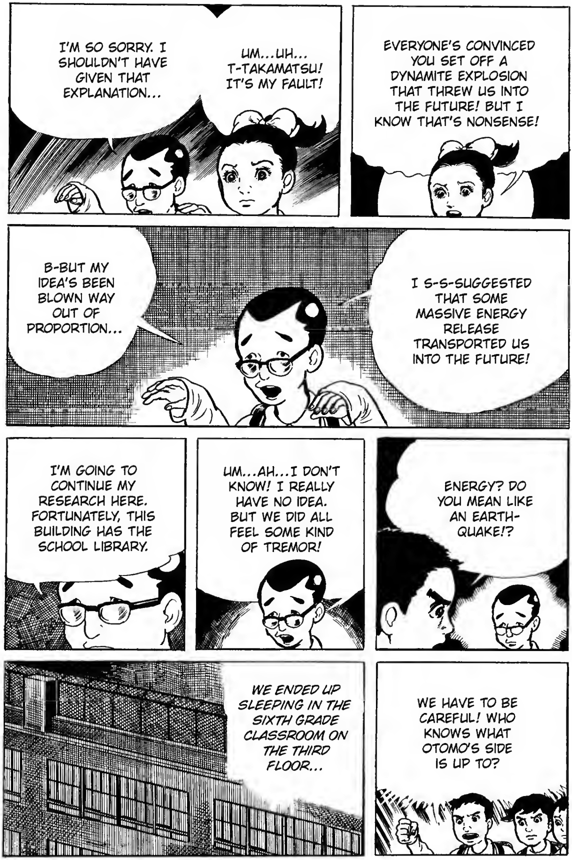

SHO!
HAVE YOU SEEN YU?
NO... WHY?
I'M WORRIED THAT HE WENT TO OTOMO'S SIDE!
OTOMO'S SIDE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
WELL... UM...
TAKAMATSU!
WAIT. WHERE'S THE REST OF YOU?

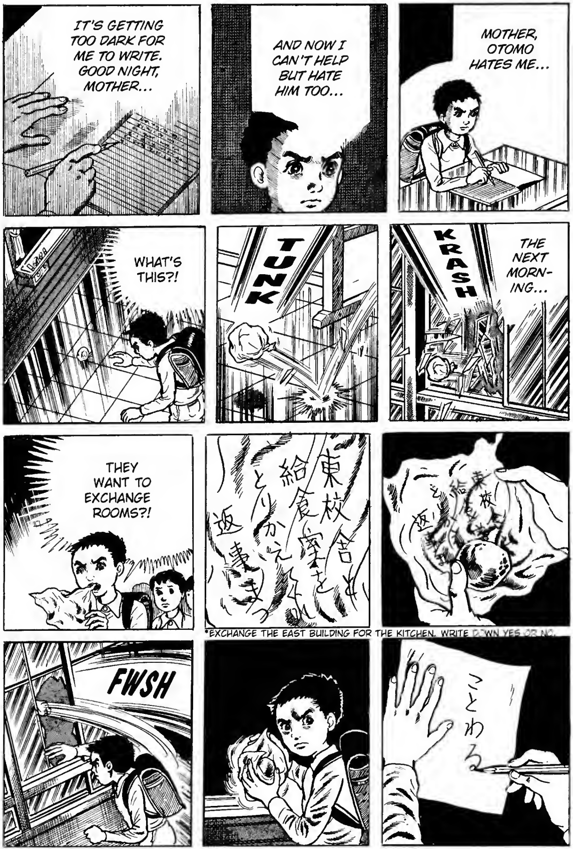

TAKAMATSU CAN'T DO ANYTHING!
I'M JOINING OTOMO TOO!
STOP!
HEY!
YOU'RE ALL DUMB IF YOU STAY HERE!
BESIDES, IT'S HIS FAULT THAT WE ENDED UP HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
WHY...? HOW COULD HE BE SO...
YU'S SO YOUNG. WHAT IF HE FOLLOWED SOMEONE OVER TO OTOMO'S SIDE WITHOUT THINKING...?


I'LL GO LOOK FOR HIM!
MAYBE HE'S IN THE GYM!
KREEK


WHAT'S WRONG?!
THIS IS *OUR* TERRITORY!
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
I'M LOOKING FOR YU! HAVE YOU SEEN HIM?
GET OUT!
WAAH!
THUMP
YOU CAN *HAVE* THIS BRAT!
SHO!

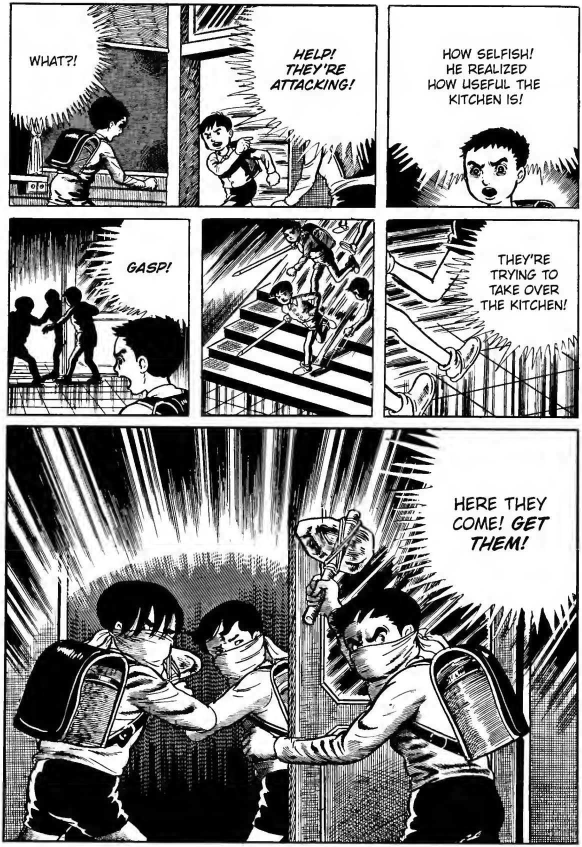

WHAM
SHO! ARE YOU OKAY?
I-I-I JUST *FOLLOWED* THEM!
SHOVE
HEY!
SHO!
LOOK OUT! THERE'S A STARFISH!
COME ON! BACK IN THE BUILDING!
SLAM
I WAS SO SCARED! I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA GET KILLED...
A LOT OF THE STUDENTS HAVE JOINED OTOMO. THE ONES HERE ARE ON YOUR SIDE...

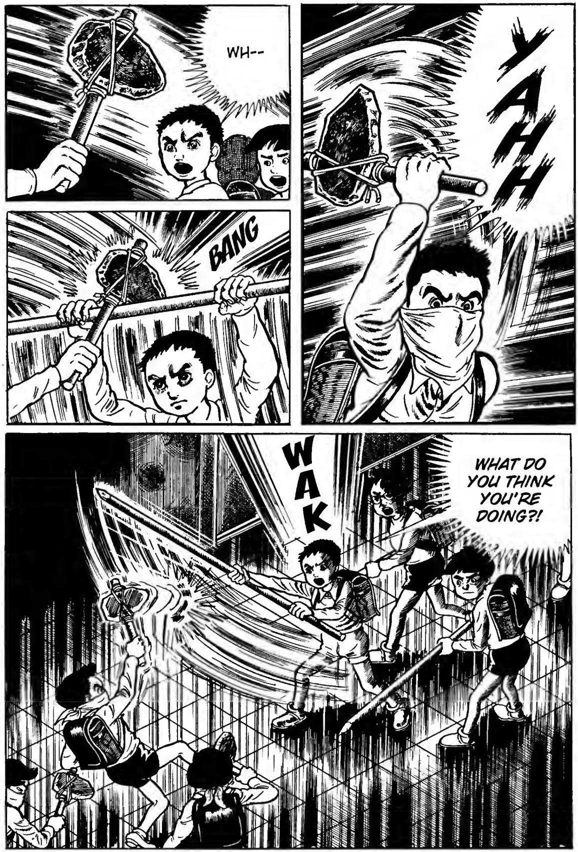

EVERYONE'S CONVINCED YOU SET OFF A DYNAMITE EXPLOSION THAT THREW US INTO THE FUTURE! BUT I KNOW THAT'S NONSENSE!
UM...UH... T-TAKAMATSU! IT'S MY FAULT!
I'M SO SORRY. I SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN THAT EXPLANATION...
I S-S-SUGGESTED THAT SOME MASSIVE ENERGY RELEASE TRANSPORTED US INTO THE FUTURE!
B-BUT MY IDEA'S BEEN BLOWN WAY OUT OF PROPORTION...
ENERGY? DO YOU MEAN LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE!?
UM...AH...I DON'T KNOW! I REALLY HAVE NO IDEA. BUT WE DID ALL FEEL SOME KIND OF TREMOR!
I'M GOING TO CONTINUE MY RESEARCH HERE. FORTUNATELY, THIS BUILDING HAS THE SCHOOL LIBRARY.
WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL! WHO KNOWS WHAT OTOMO'S SIDE IS UP TO?
WE ENDED UP SLEEPING IN THE SIXTH GRADE CLASSROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR...

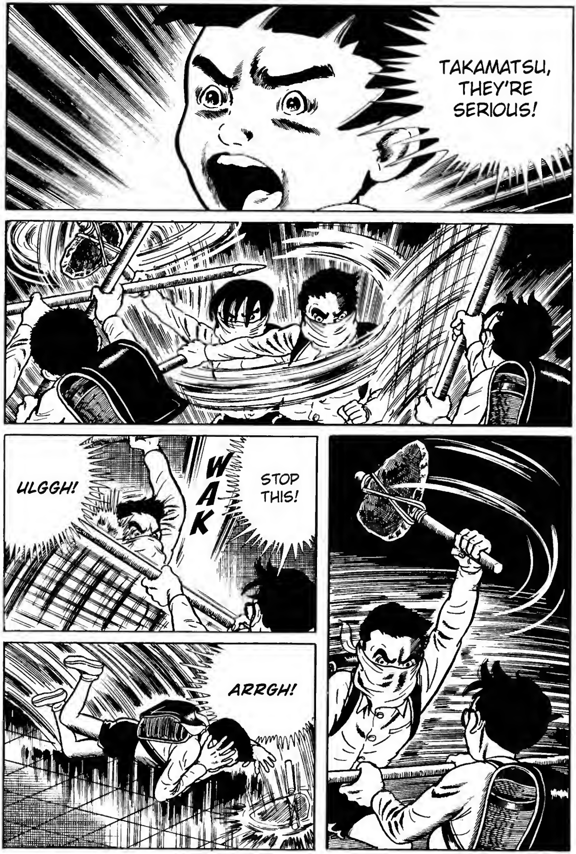

MOTHER, OTOMO HATES ME...
AND NOW I CAN'T HELP BUT HATE HIM TOO...
IT'S GETTING TOO DARK FOR ME TO WRITE. GOOD NIGHT, MOTHER...
KRASH
THE NEXT MORNING...
TUNK
WHAT'S THIS?!
東校舎と
給食室を
とりかえろ
返事まつ
THEY WANT TO EXCHANGE ROOMS?!
ことわる
FWSH

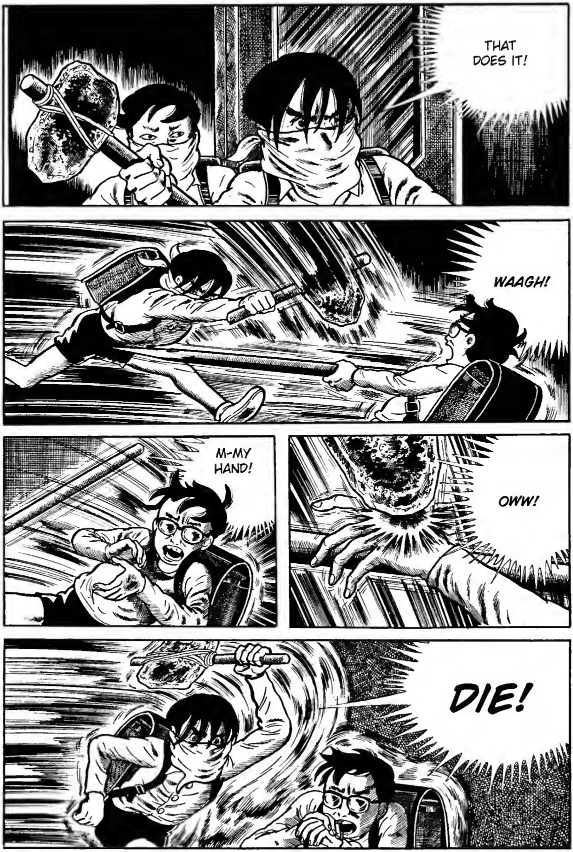
*EXCHANGE THE EAST BUILDING FOR THE KITCHEN. WRITE DOWN YES OR NO.

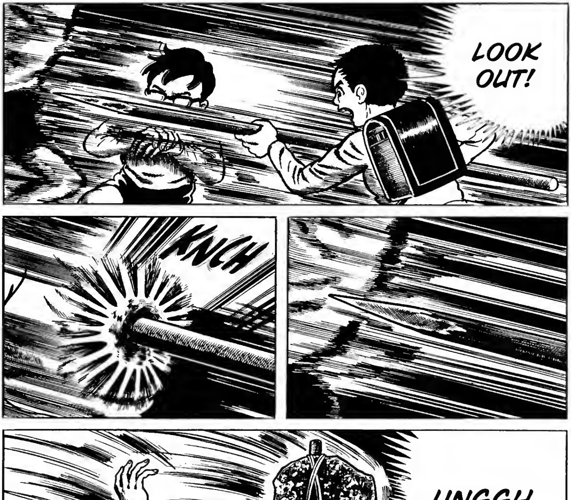
*ABSOLUTELY NOT

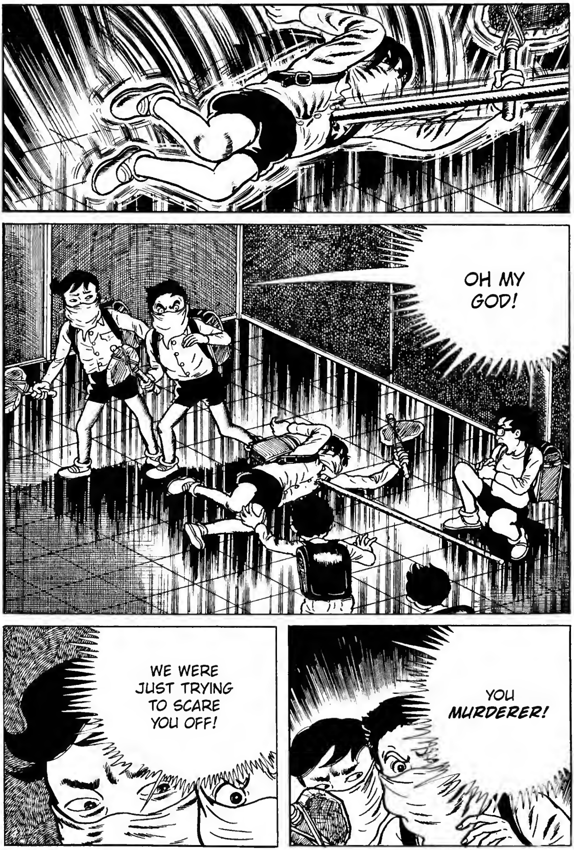

HOW SELFISH! HE REALIZED HOW USEFUL THE KITCHEN IS!
HELP! THEY'RE ATTACKING!
WHAT?!
THEY'RE TRYING TO TAKE OVER THE KITCHEN!
GASP!
HERE THEY COME! ***GET THEM!***

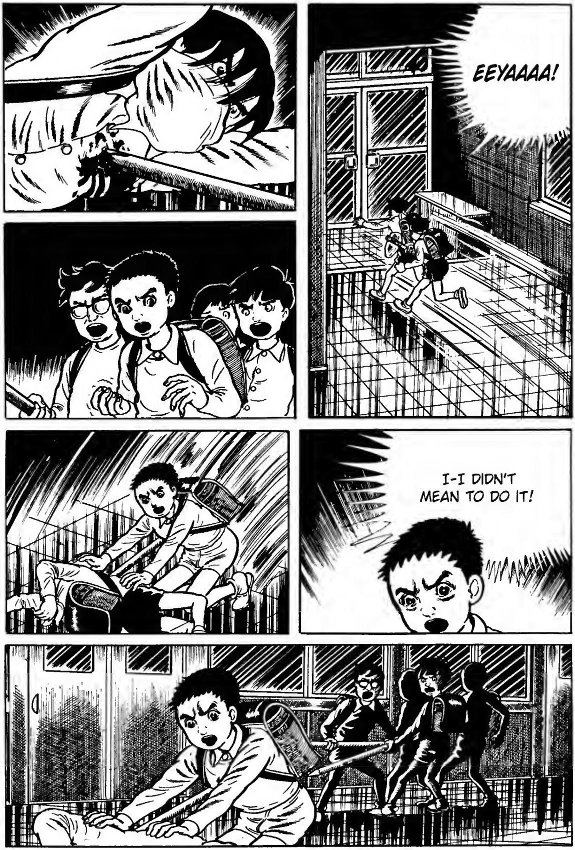

WH--
YAHH
BANG
WAK
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

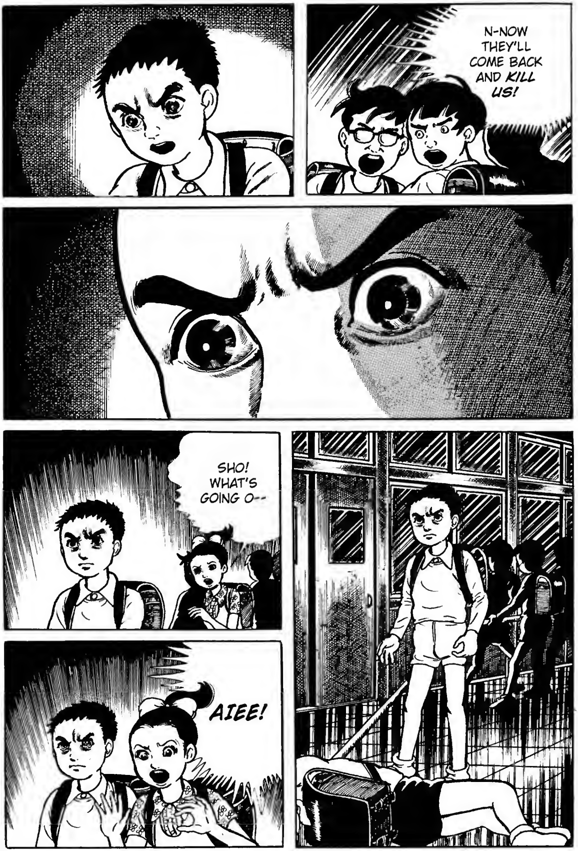

TAKAMATSU, THEY'RE SERIOUS!
STOP THIS!
WAK
ULGGH!
ARRGH!

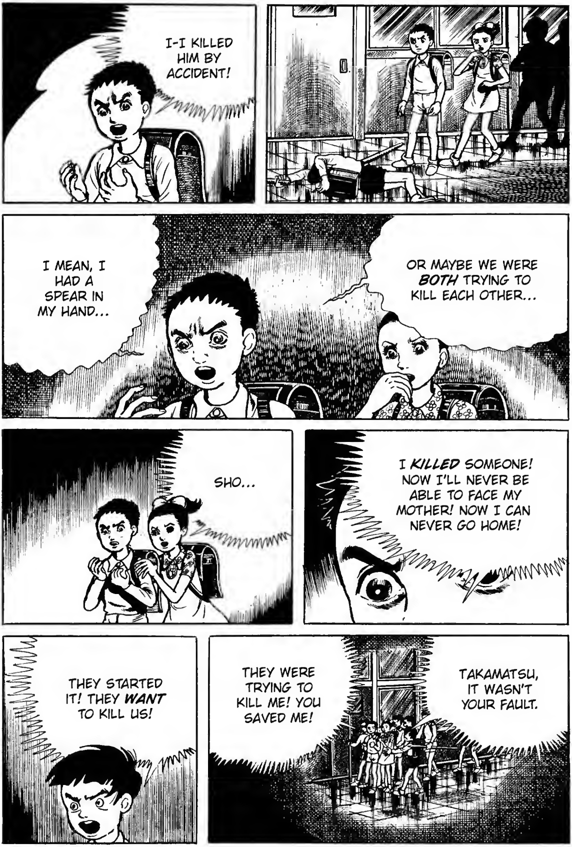

THAT DOES IT!
WAAGH!
OWW!
M-MY HAND!
DIE!

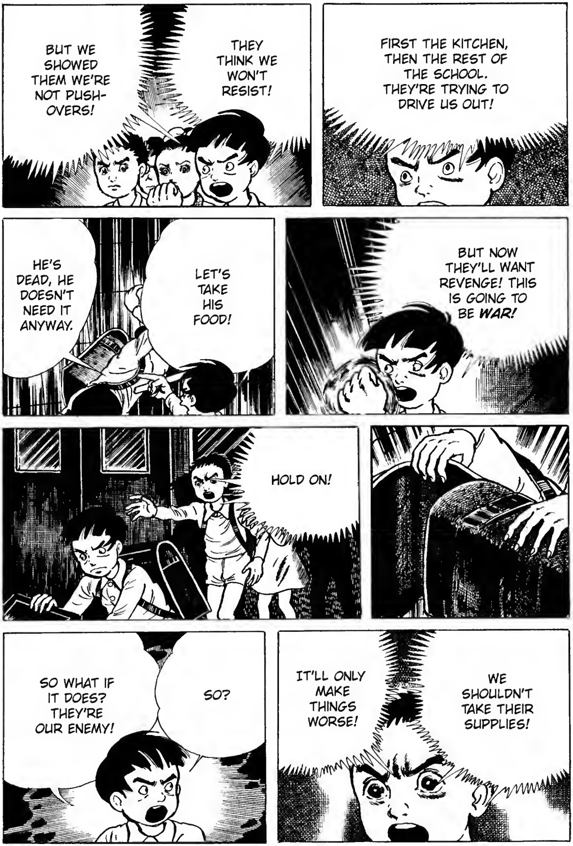

LOOK OUT!
KNCH
UNGGH ...!

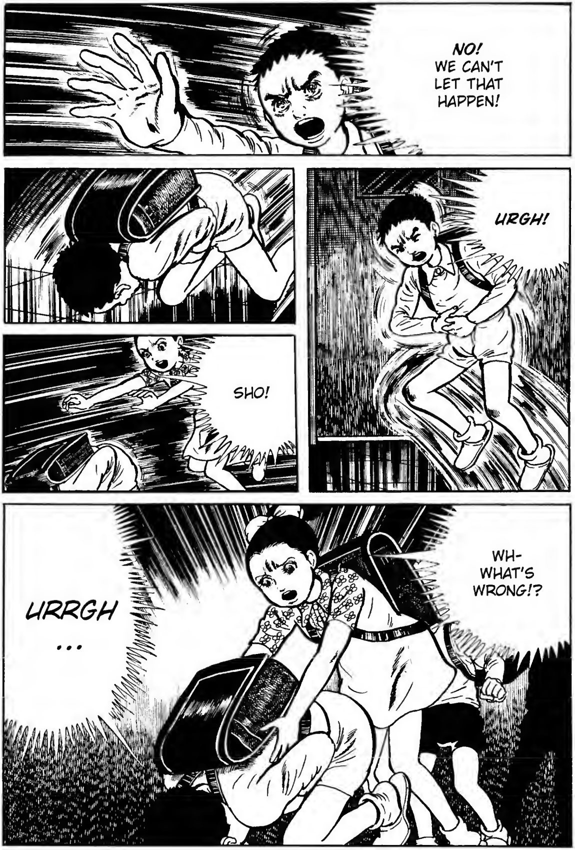

OH MY GOD!
WE WERE JUST TRYING TO SCARE YOU OFF!
YOU *MURDERER!*

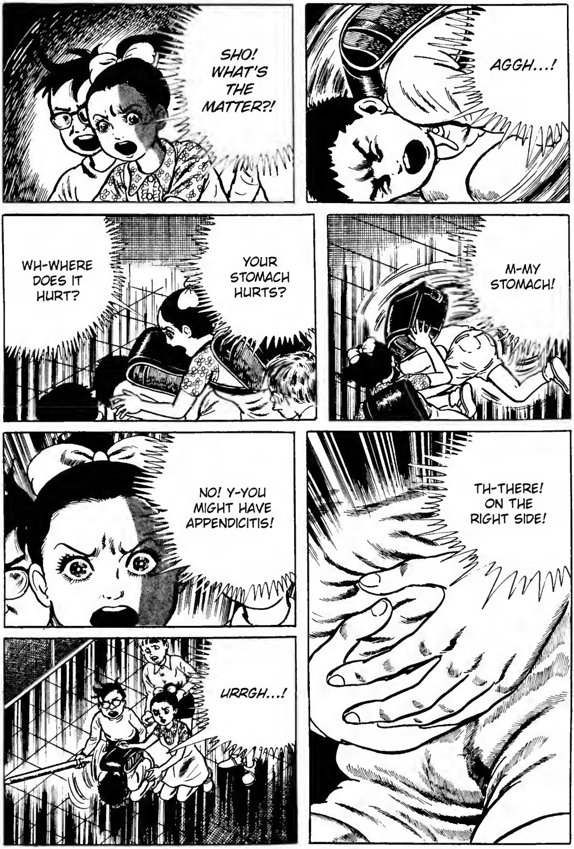

EEYAAAA!
I-I DIDN'T MEAN TO DO IT!

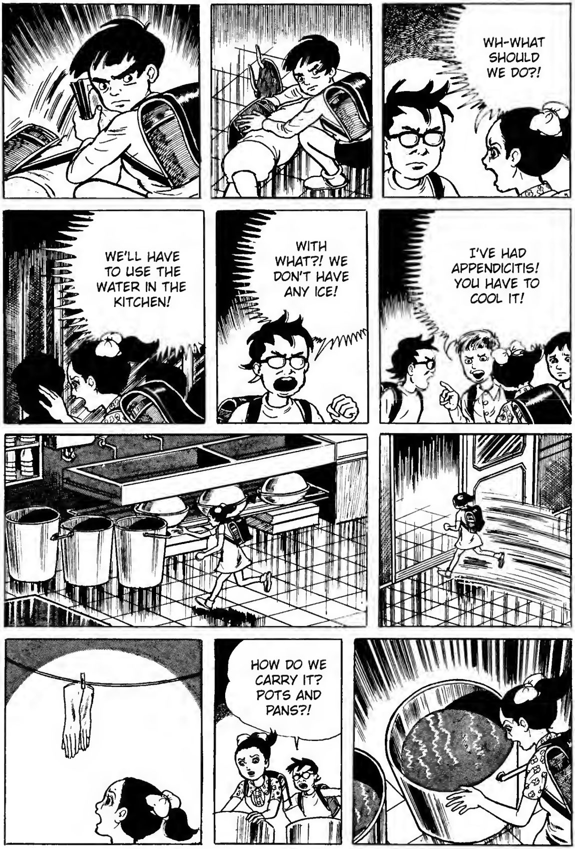

N-NOW THEY'LL COME BACK AND KILL US!
SHO! WHAT'S GOING O--
AIEE!

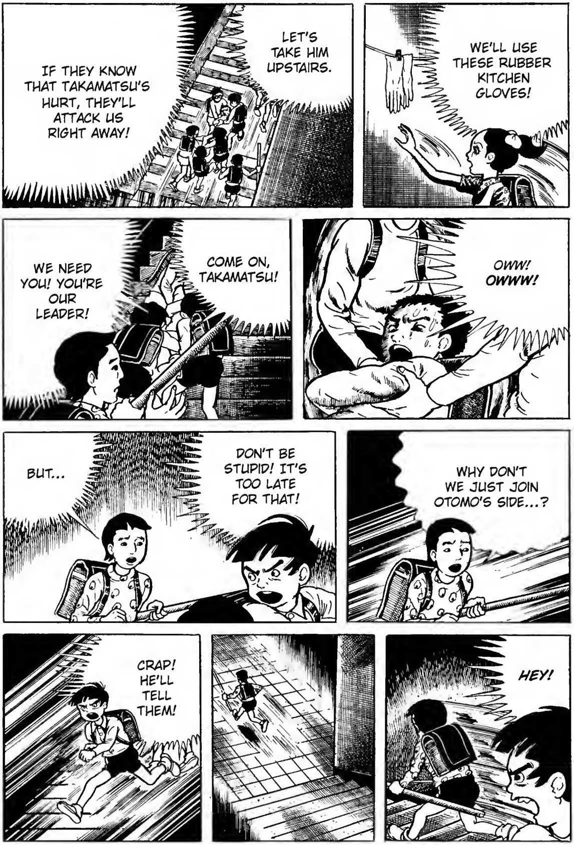

I-I KILLED HIM BY ACCIDENT!
I MEAN, I HAD A SPEAR IN MY HAND...
OR MAYBE WE WERE *BOTH* TRYING TO KILL EACH OTHER...
SHO...
I *KILLED* SOMEONE! NOW I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FACE MY MOTHER! NOW I CAN NEVER GO HOME!
THEY STARTED IT! THEY *WANT* TO KILL US!
THEY WERE TRYING TO KILL ME! YOU SAVED ME!
TAKAMATSU, IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT.

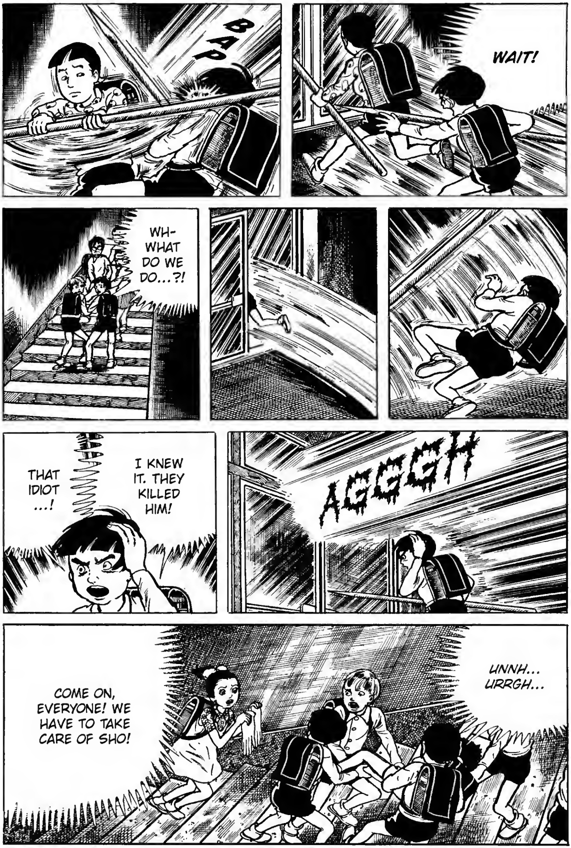

FIRST THE KITCHEN, THEN THE REST OF THE SCHOOL. THEY'RE TRYING TO DRIVE US OUT!
THEY THINK WE WON'T RESIST!
BUT WE SHOWED THEM WE'RE NOT PUSHOVERS!
BUT NOW THEY'LL WANT REVENGE! THIS IS GOING TO BE ***WAR!***
LET'S TAKE HIS FOOD!
HE'S DEAD, HE DOESN'T NEED IT ANYWAY.
HOLD ON!
WE SHOULDN'T TAKE THEIR SUPPLIES!
IT'LL ONLY MAKE THINGS WORSE!
SO?
SO WHAT IF IT DOES? THEY'RE OUR ENEMY!

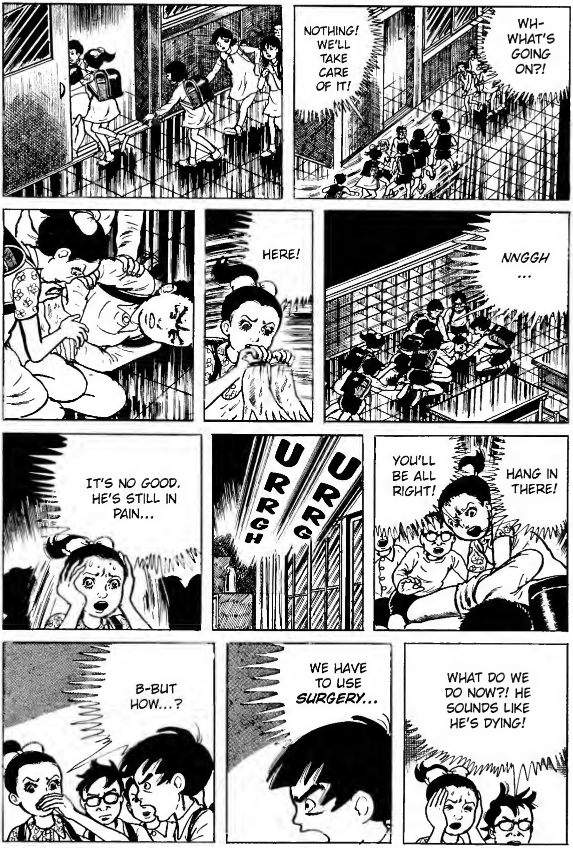

NO! WE CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!
URGH!
SHO!
WH- WHAT'S WRONG!?
URRGH ...

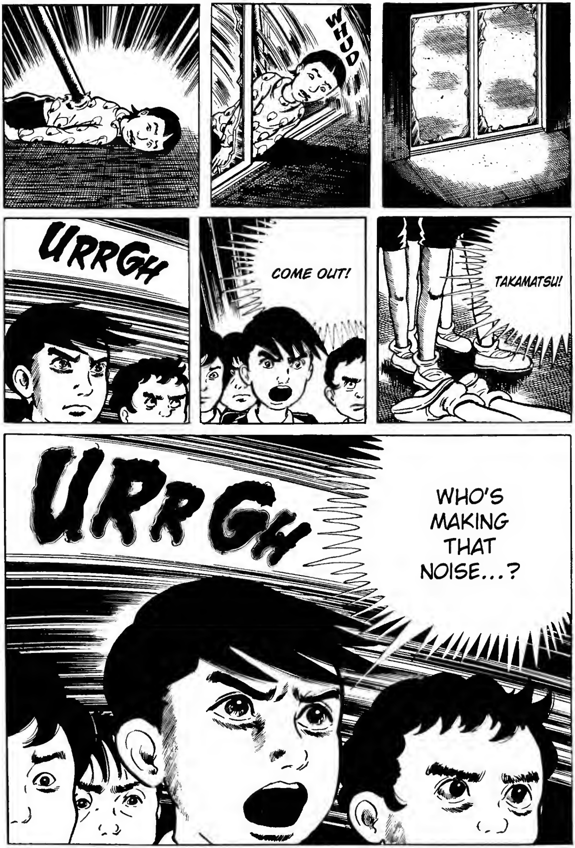

AGGH...!
SHO! WHAT'S THE MATTER?!
M-MY STOMACH!
YOUR STOMACH HURTS?
WH-WHERE DOES IT HURT?
TH-THERE! ON THE RIGHT SIDE!
NO! Y-YOU MIGHT HAVE APPENDICITIS!
URRGH...!

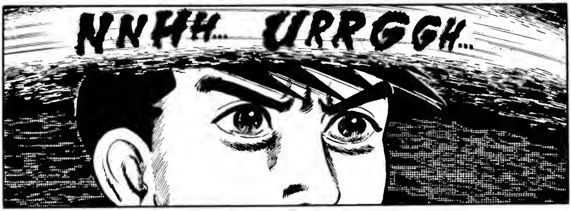

WH-WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!
WE'LL HAVE TO USE THE WATER IN THE KITCHEN!
WITH WHAT?! WE DON'T HAVE ANY ICE!
I'VE HAD APPENDICITIS! YOU HAVE TO COOL IT!
HOW DO WE CARRY IT? POTS AND PANS?!

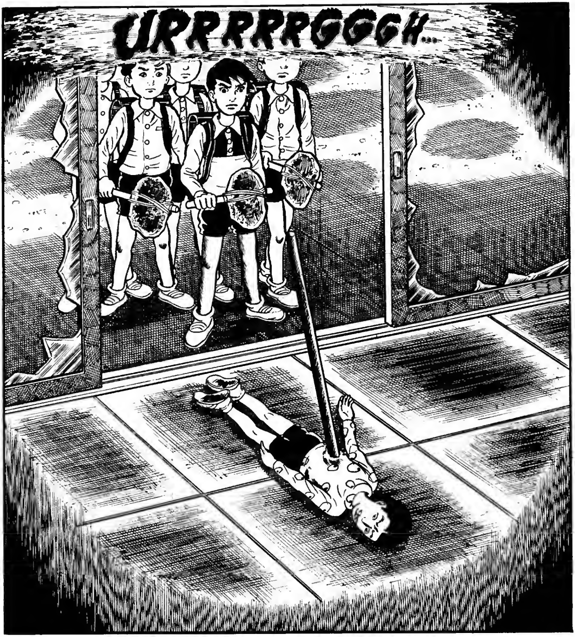

WE'LL USE THESE RUBBER KITCHEN GLOVES!
LET'S TAKE HIM UPSTAIRS.
IF THEY KNOW THAT TAKAMATSU'S HURT, THEY'LL ATTACK US RIGHT AWAY!
OWW! OWWW!
COME ON, TAKAMATSU!
WE NEED YOU! YOU'RE OUR LEADER!
WHY DON'T WE JUST JOIN OTOMO'S SIDE...?
DON'T BE STUPID! IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT!
BUT...
HEY!
CRAP! HE'LL TELL THEM!

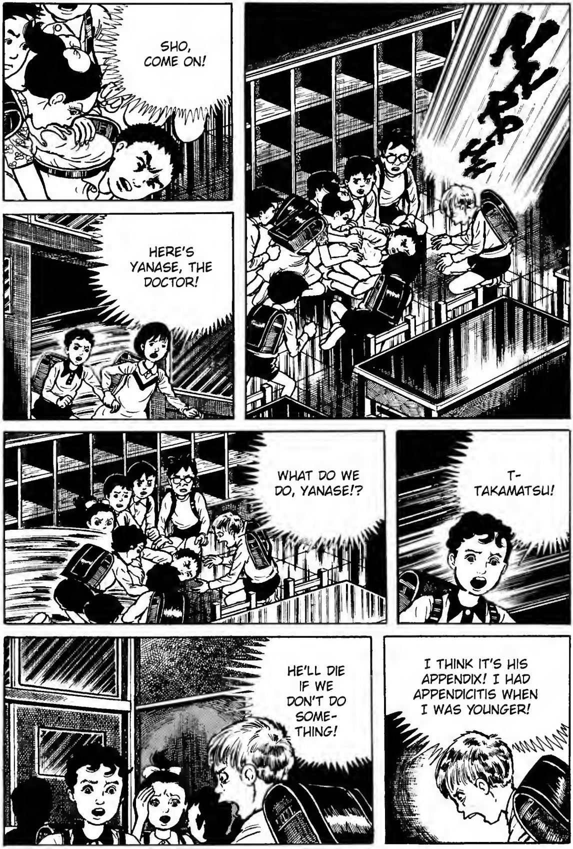

WAIT!
BAP
WH-WHAT DO WE DO...?!
AGGGH
I KNEW IT. THEY KILLED HIM!
THAT IDIOT ...!
UNNH... URRGH...
COME ON, EVERYONE! WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF SHO!

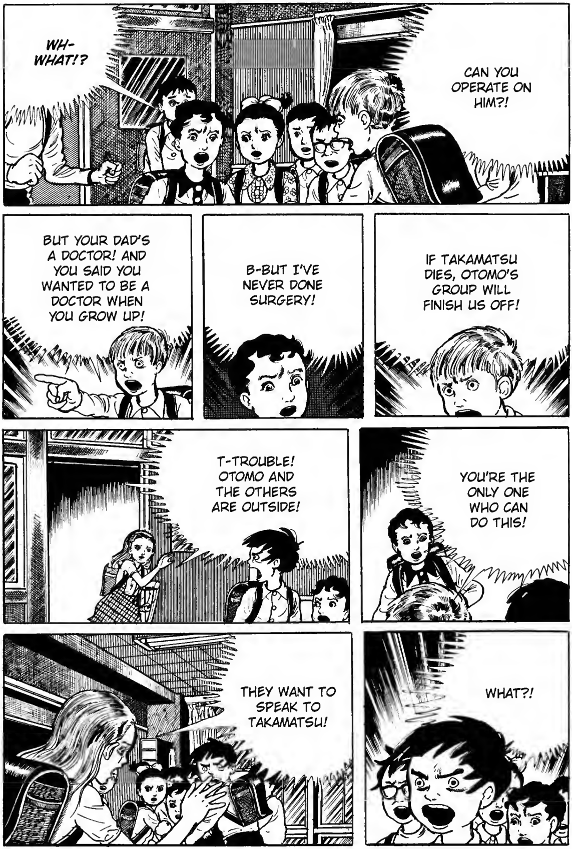

WH- WHAT'S GOING ON?!
NOTHING! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!
NNGGH ...
HERE!
HANG IN THERE!
YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
URRGH
URRG
IT'S NO GOOD. HE'S STILL IN PAIN...
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?! HE SOUNDS LIKE HE'S DYING!
WE HAVE TO USE *SURGERY*...
B-BUT HOW...?

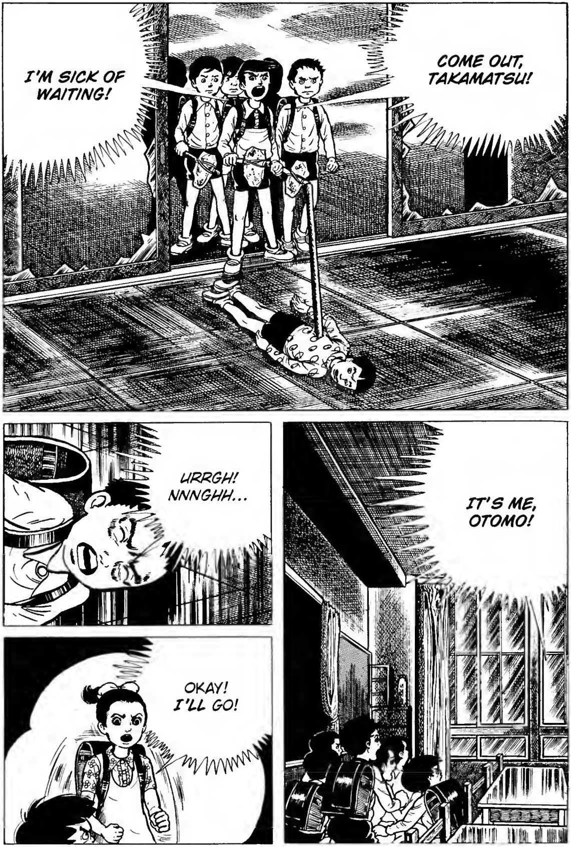

WHUD
URRGH
COME OUT!
TAKAMATSU!
URRGH
WHO'S MAKING THAT NOISE...?

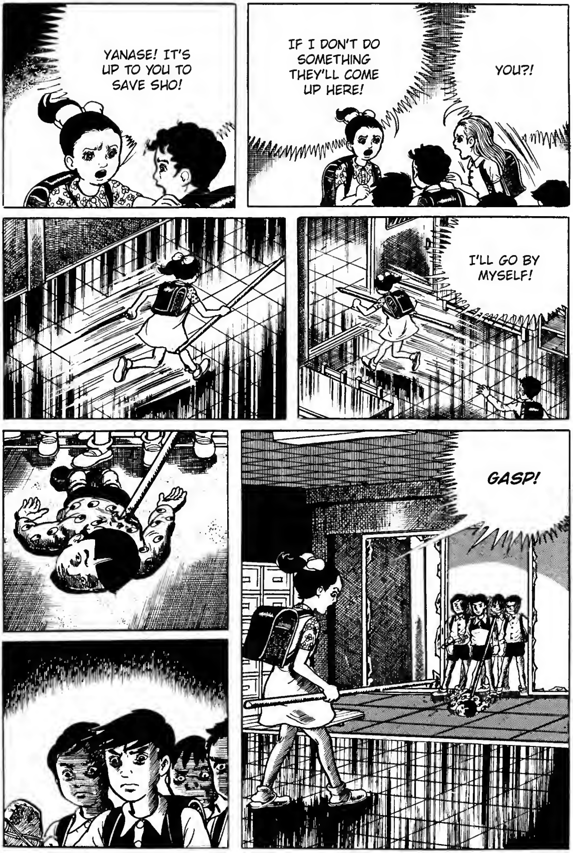

NNHH... URRGGH...

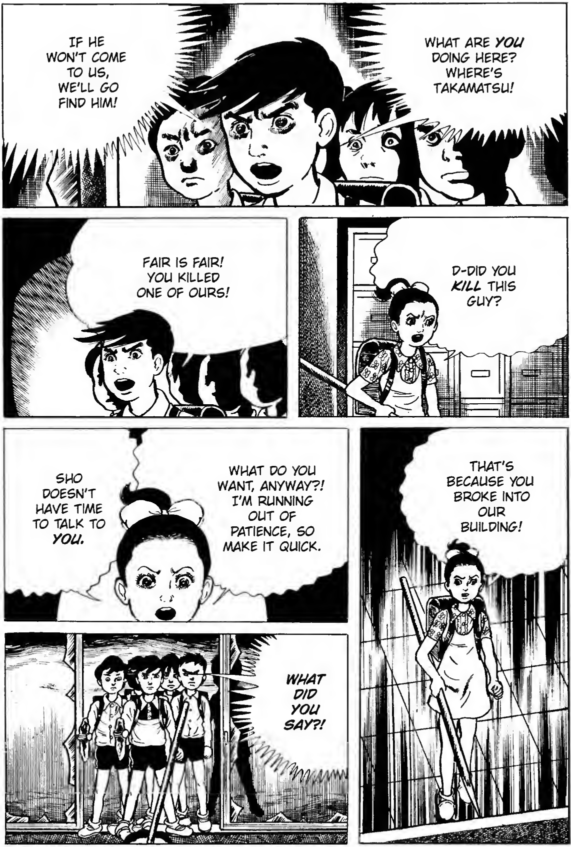

URRRRRGGGH...

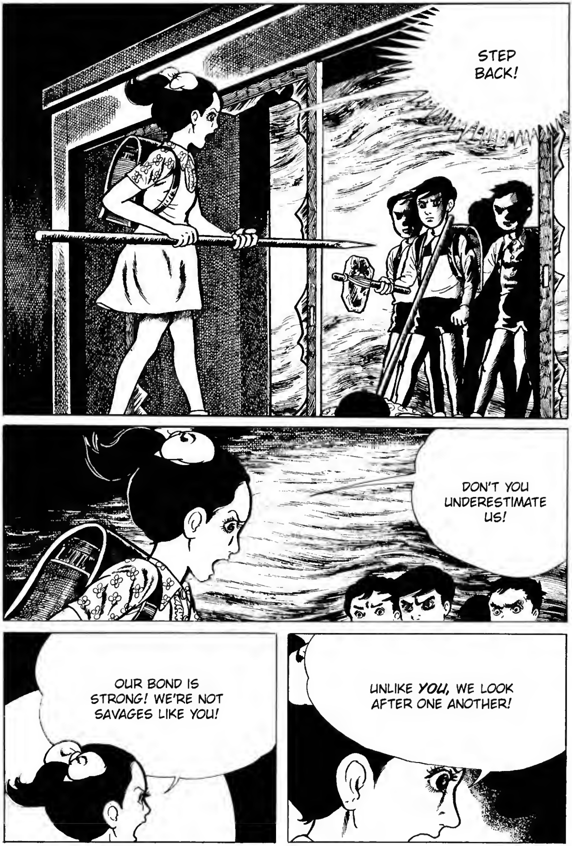

SHO, COME ON!
HERE'S YANASE, THE DOCTOR!
WHAT DO WE DO, YANASE!?
T-TAKAMATSU!
HE'LL DIE IF WE DON'T DO SOME-THING!
I THINK IT'S HIS APPENDIX! I HAD APPENDICITIS WHEN I WAS YOUNGER!

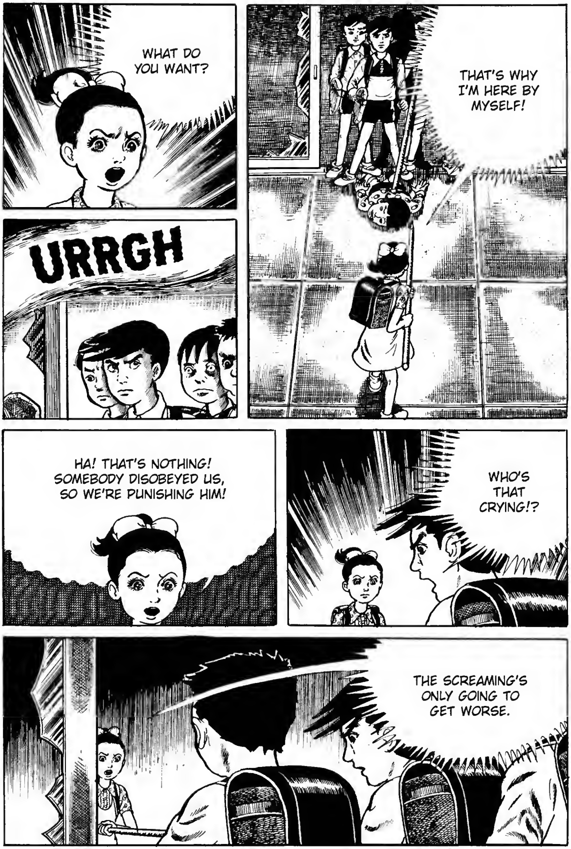

CAN YOU OPERATE ON HIM?!
WH- WHAT!?
BUT YOUR DAD'S A DOCTOR! AND YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO BE A DOCTOR WHEN YOU GROW UP!
B-BUT I'VE NEVER DONE SURGERY!
IF TAKAMATSU DIES, OTOMO'S GROUP WILL FINISH US OFF!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO THIS!
T-TROUBLE! OTOMO AND THE OTHERS ARE OUTSIDE!
THEY WANT TO SPEAK TO TAKAMATSU!
WHAT?!

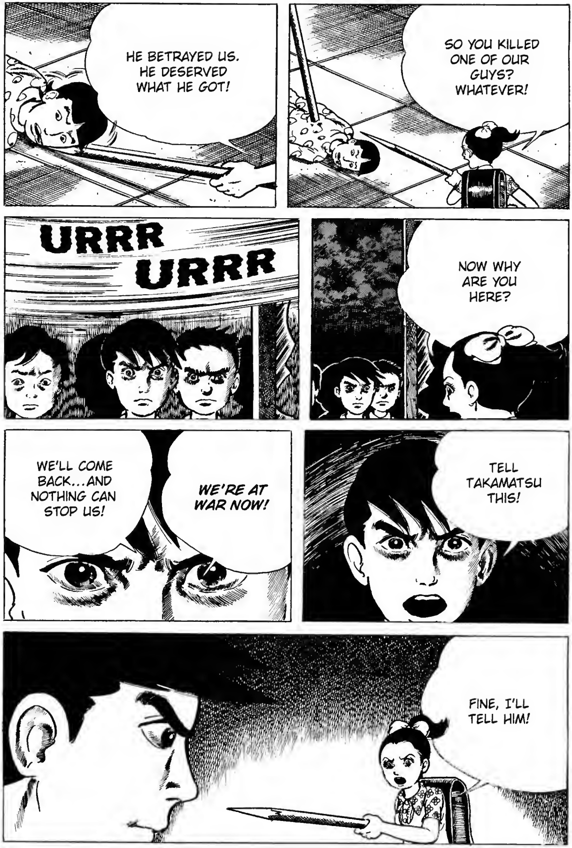

COME OUT, TAKAMATSU!
I'M SICK OF WAITING!
IT'S ME, OTOMO!
URRGH! NNNGHH...
OKAY! I'LL GO!

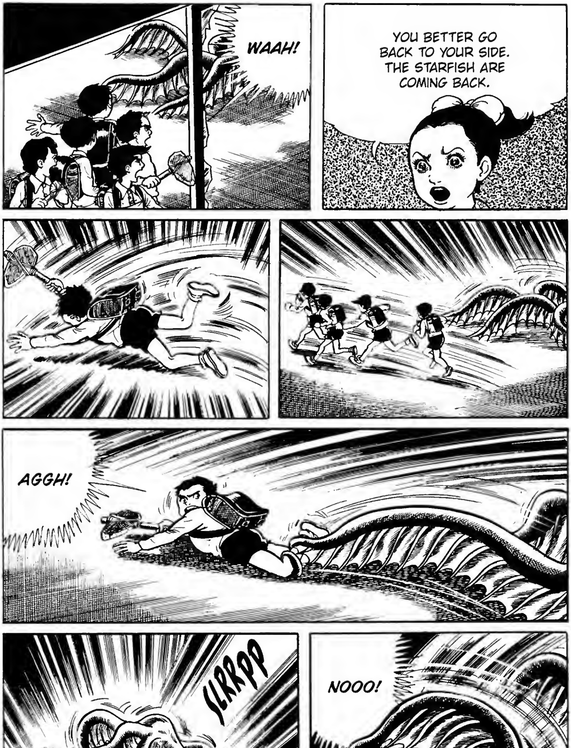

YANASE! IT'S UP TO YOU TO SAVE SHO!
IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING THEY'LL COME UP HERE!
YOU?!
I'LL GO BY MYSELF!
GASP!

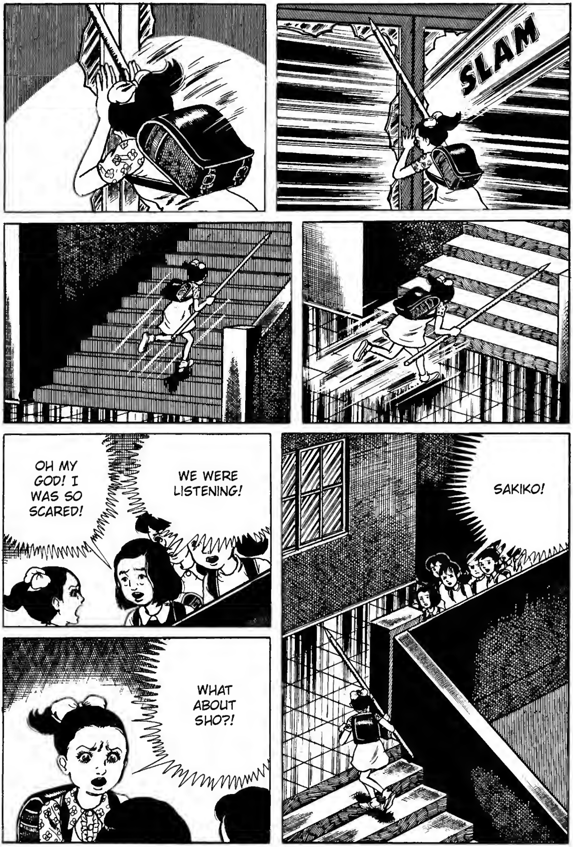

WHAT ARE *YOU* DOING HERE? WHERE'S TAKAMATSU!
IF HE WON'T COME TO US, WE'LL GO FIND HIM!
D-DID YOU *KILL* THIS GUY?
FAIR IS FAIR! YOU KILLED ONE OF OURS!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU BROKE INTO OUR BUILDING!
WHAT DO YOU WANT, ANYWAY?! I'M RUNNING OUT OF PATIENCE, SO MAKE IT QUICK.
SHO DOESN'T HAVE TIME TO TALK TO *YOU.*
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

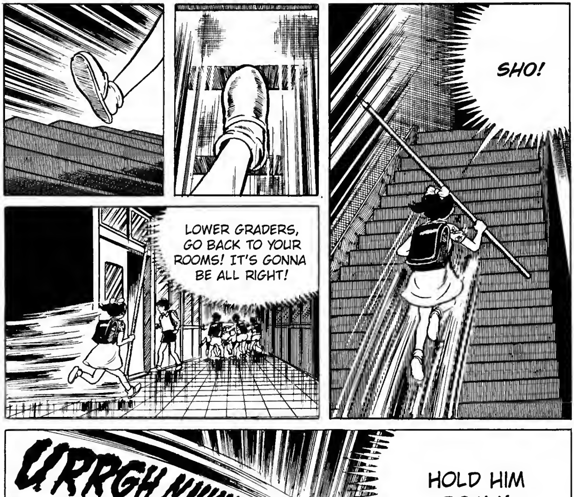

STEP BACK!
DON'T YOU UNDERESTIMATE US!
OUR BOND IS STRONG! WE'RE NOT SAVAGES LIKE YOU!
UNLIKE *YOU*, WE LOOK AFTER ONE ANOTHER!

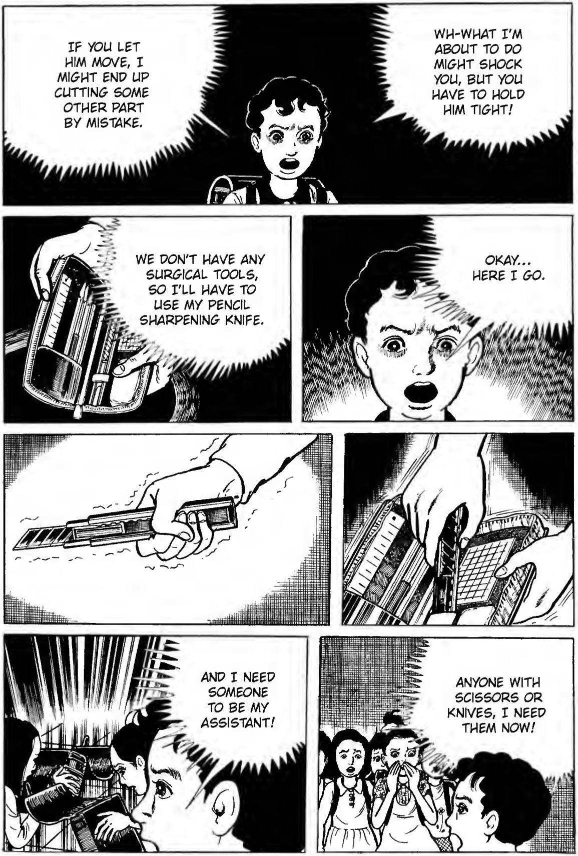

THAT'S WHY I'M HERE BY MYSELF!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
URRGH
WHO'S THAT CRYING!?
HA! THAT'S NOTHING! SOMEBODY DISOBEYED US, SO WE'RE PUNISHING HIM!
THE SCREAMING'S ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE.

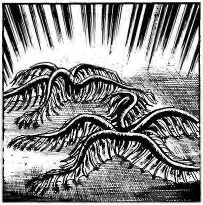

HE BETRAYED US. HE DESERVED WHAT HE GOT!
SO YOU KILLED ONE OF OUR GUYS? WHATEVER!
URRR URRR
NOW WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WE'LL COME BACK...AND NOTHING CAN STOP US!
WE'RE AT WAR NOW!
TELL TAKAMATSU THIS!
FINE, I'LL TELL HIM!

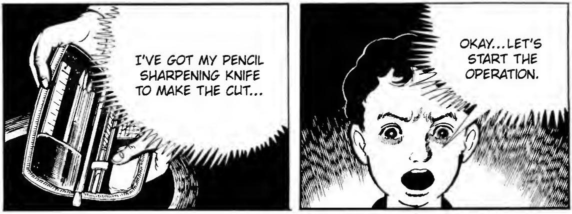

WAAH!
YOU BETTER GO BACK TO YOUR SIDE. THE STARFISH ARE COMING BACK.
AGGH!
SLRRPP
NOOO!


SLAM
SAKIKO!
WE WERE LISTENING!
OH MY GOD! I WAS SO SCARED!
WHAT ABOUT SHO?!

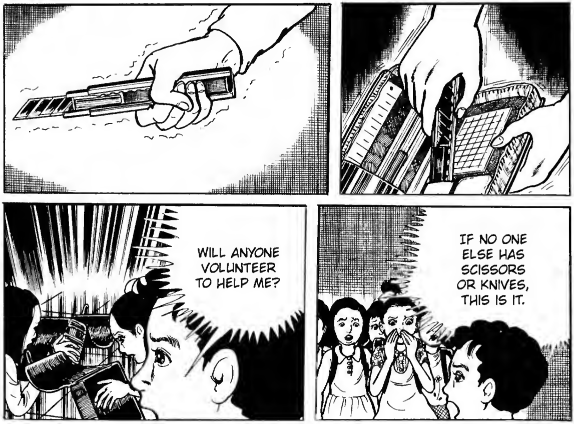

SHO!
LOWER GRADERS, GO BACK TO YOUR ROOMS! IT'S GONNA BE ALL RIGHT!
URRGH NNHHAA
HOLD HIM DOWN!

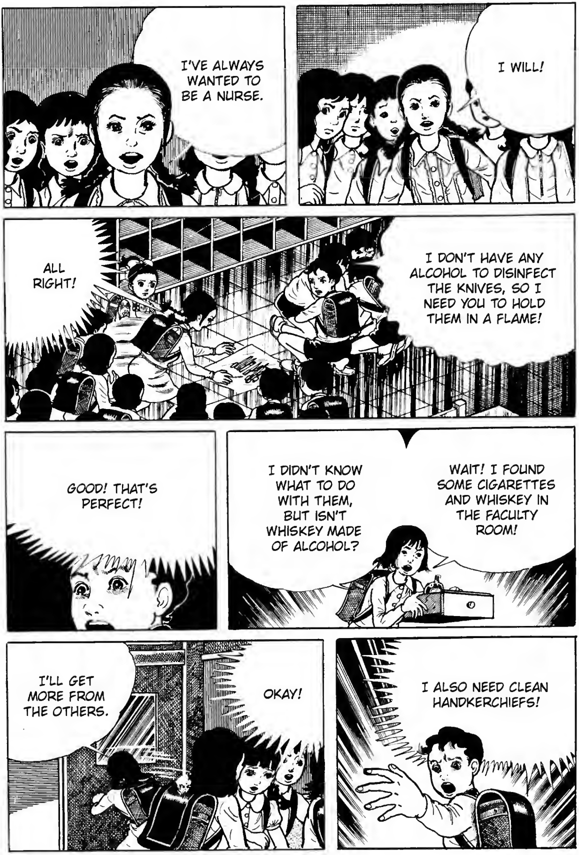

WH-WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO MIGHT SHOCK YOU, BUT YOU HAVE TO HOLD HIM TIGHT!
IF YOU LET HIM MOVE, I MIGHT END UP CUTTING SOME OTHER PART BY MISTAKE.
OKAY... HERE I GO.
WE DON'T HAVE ANY SURGICAL TOOLS, SO I'LL HAVE TO USE MY PENCIL SHARPENING KNIFE.
ANYONE WITH SCISSORS OR KNIVES, I NEED THEM NOW!
AND I NEED SOMEONE TO BE MY ASSISTANT!

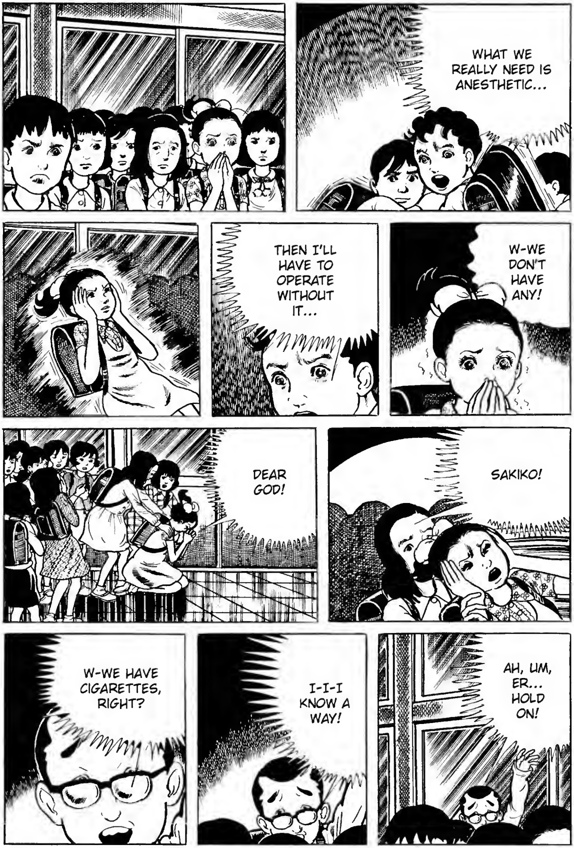


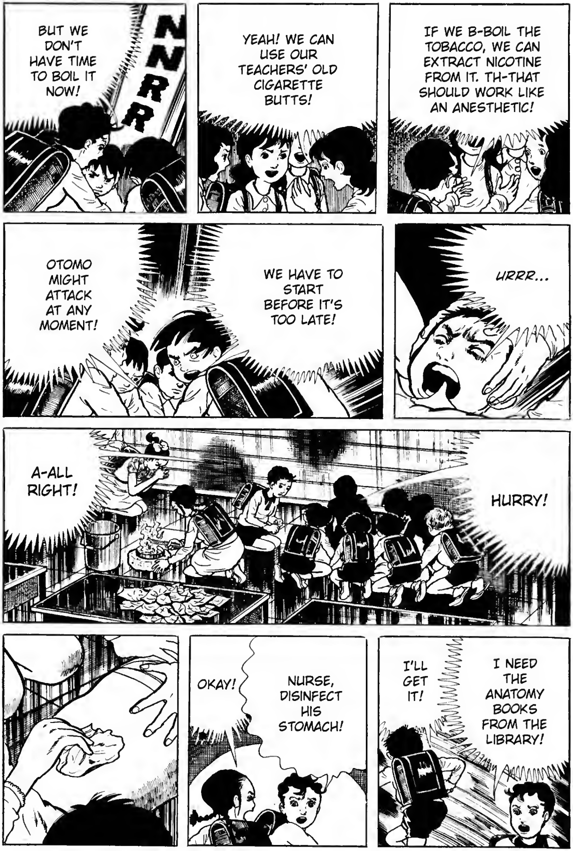

I'VE GOT MY PENCIL SHARPENING KNIFE TO MAKE THE CUT...
OKAY...LET'S START THE OPERATION.

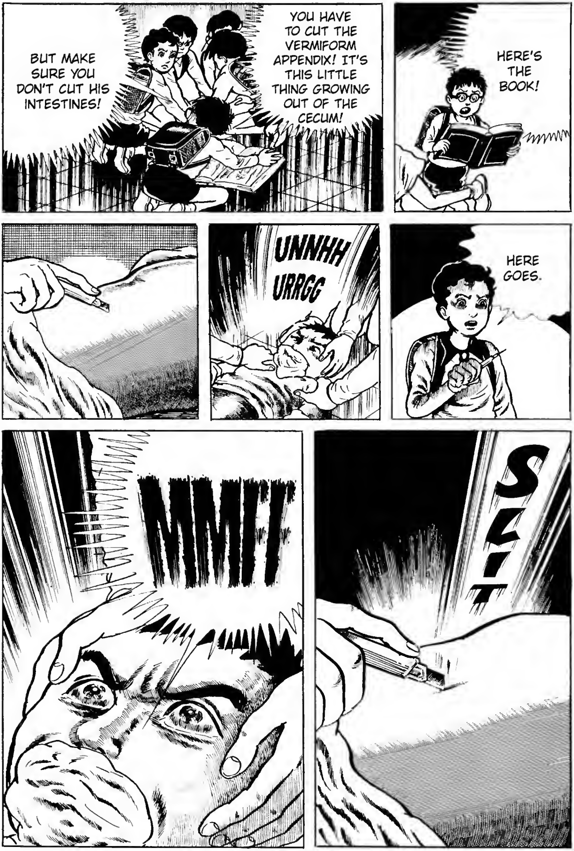
CHAPTER 36:
THE OPERATION

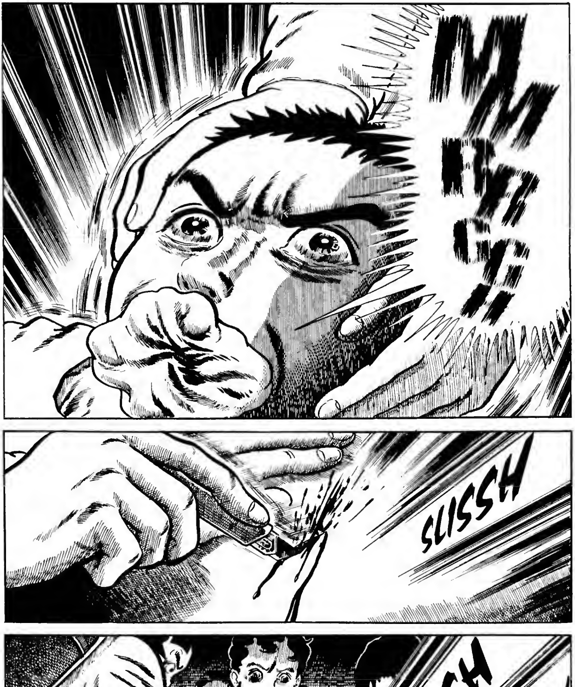

WILL ANYONE VOLUNTEER TO HELP ME?
IF NO ONE ELSE HAS SCISSORS OR KNIVES, THIS IS IT.

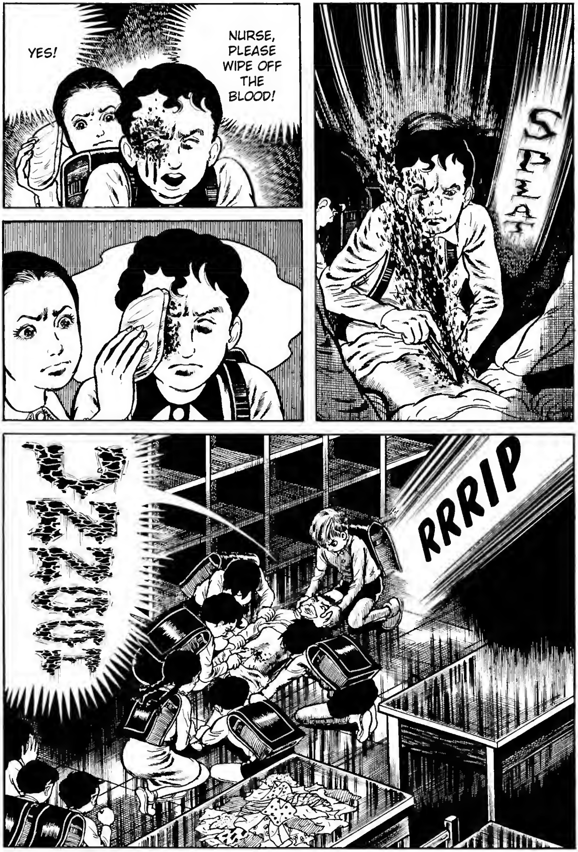

I WILL!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A NURSE.
I DON'T HAVE ANY ALCOHOL TO DISINFECT THE KNIVES, SO I NEED YOU TO HOLD THEM IN A FLAME!
ALL RIGHT!
WAIT! I FOUND SOME CIGARETTES AND WHISKEY IN THE FACULTY ROOM!
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THEM, BUT ISN'T WHISKEY MADE OF ALCOHOL?
GOOD! THAT'S PERFECT!
I ALSO NEED CLEAN HANDKERCHIEFS!
OKAY!
I'LL GET MORE FROM THE OTHERS.

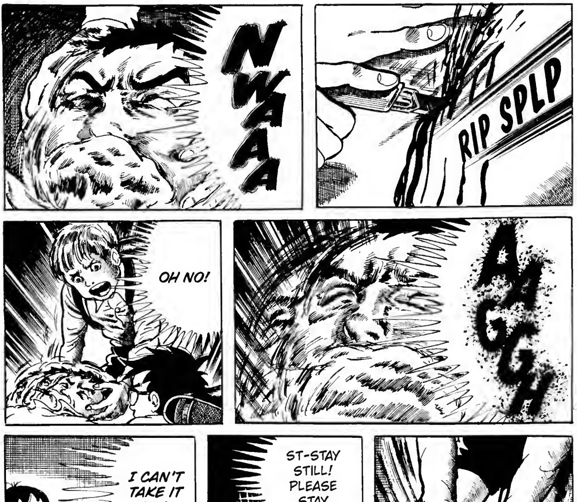

WHAT WE REALLY NEED IS ANESTHETIC...
W-WE DON'T HAVE ANY!
THEN I'LL HAVE TO OPERATE WITHOUT IT...
SAKIKO!
DEAR GOD!
AH, UM, ER... HOLD ON!
I-I-I KNOW A WAY!
W-WE HAVE CIGARETTES, RIGHT?

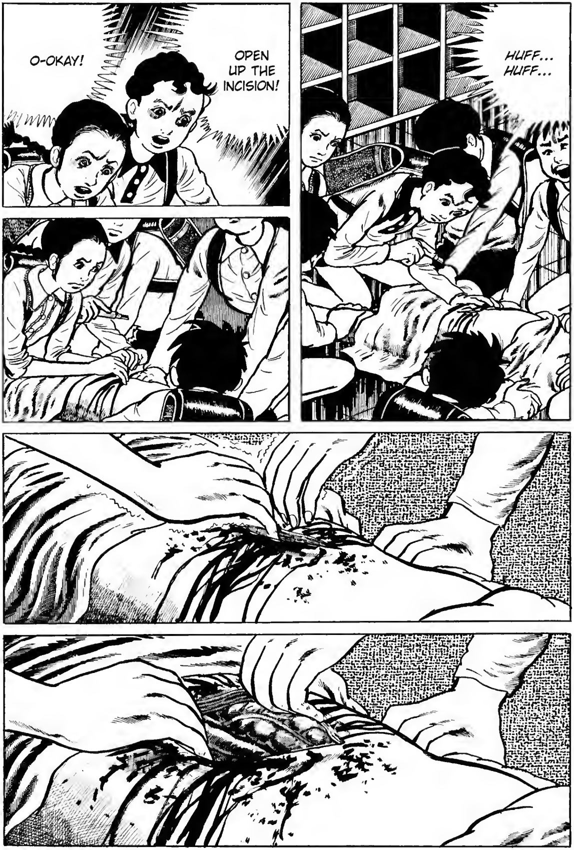

IF WE B-BOIL THE TOBACCO, WE CAN EXTRACT NICOTINE FROM IT. TH-THAT SHOULD WORK LIKE AN ANESTHETIC!
YEAH! WE CAN USE OUR TEACHERS' OLD CIGARETTE BUTTS!
NNRR
BUT WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO BOIL IT NOW!
URRR...
WE HAVE TO START BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
OTOMO MIGHT ATTACK AT ANY MOMENT!
HURRY!
A-ALL RIGHT!
I NEED THE ANATOMY BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY!
I'LL GET IT!
NURSE, DISINFECT HIS STOMACH!
OKAY!

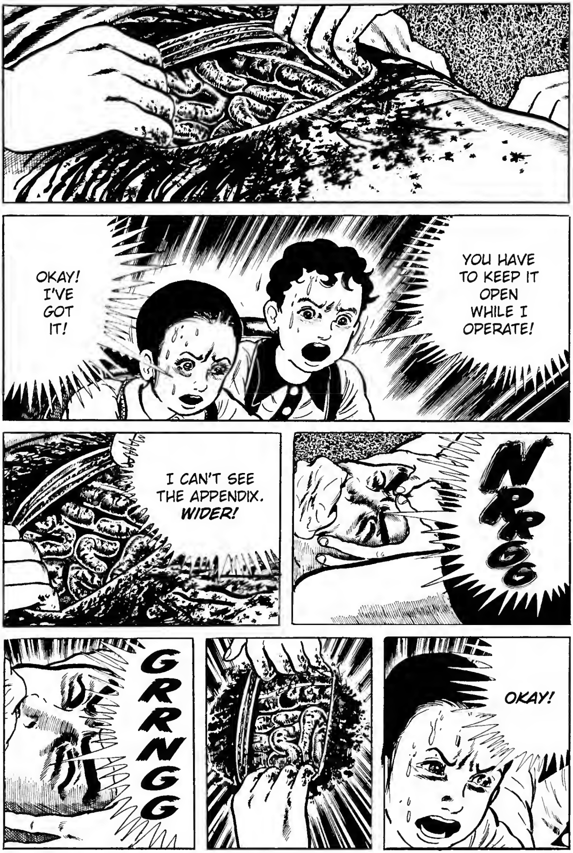

HERE'S THE BOOK!
YOU HAVE TO CUT THE VERMIFORM APPENDIX! IT'S THIS LITTLE THING GROWING OUT OF THE CECUM!
BUT MAKE SURE YOU DON'T CUT HIS INTESTINES!
HERE GOES.
UNNHH URRGG
SLIT
MMFF

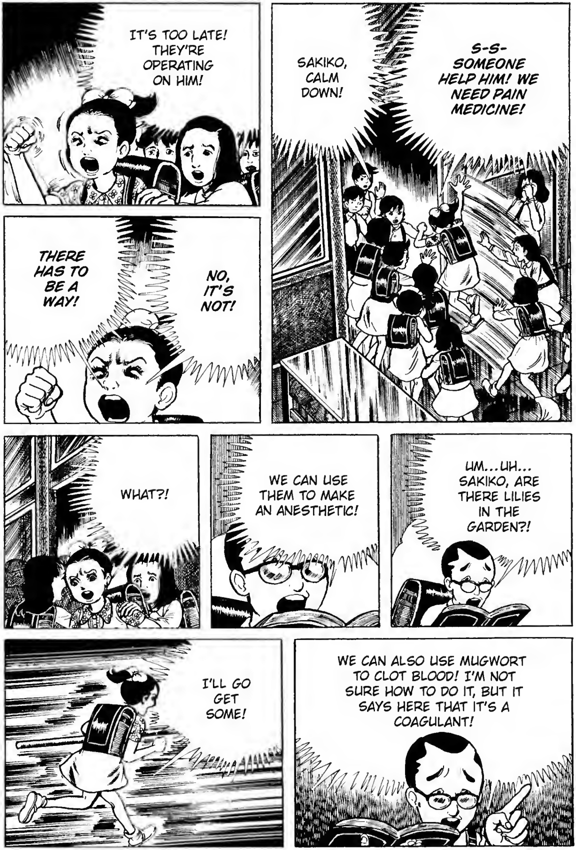

MMPH!!
SLISSH
SLISSSH

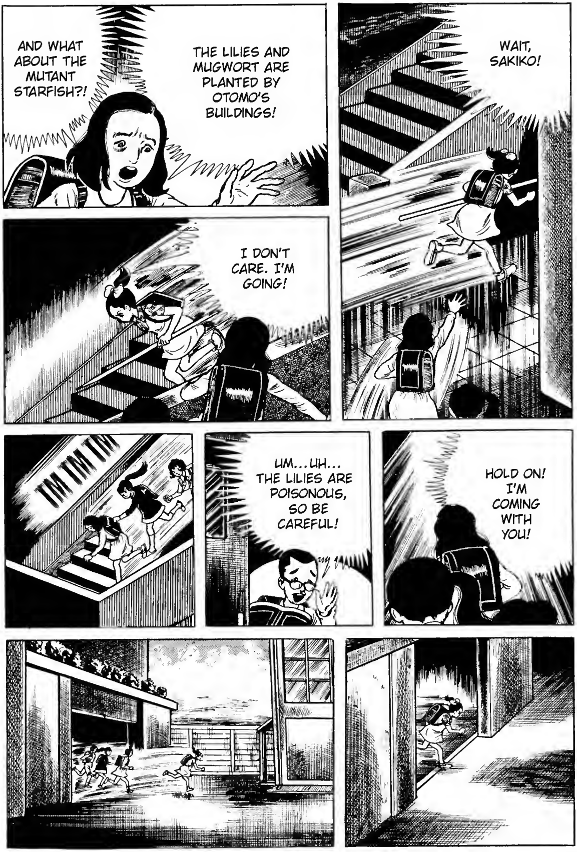

NURSE, PLEASE WIPE OFF THE BLOOD!
YES!
SPLAT
RRRIP

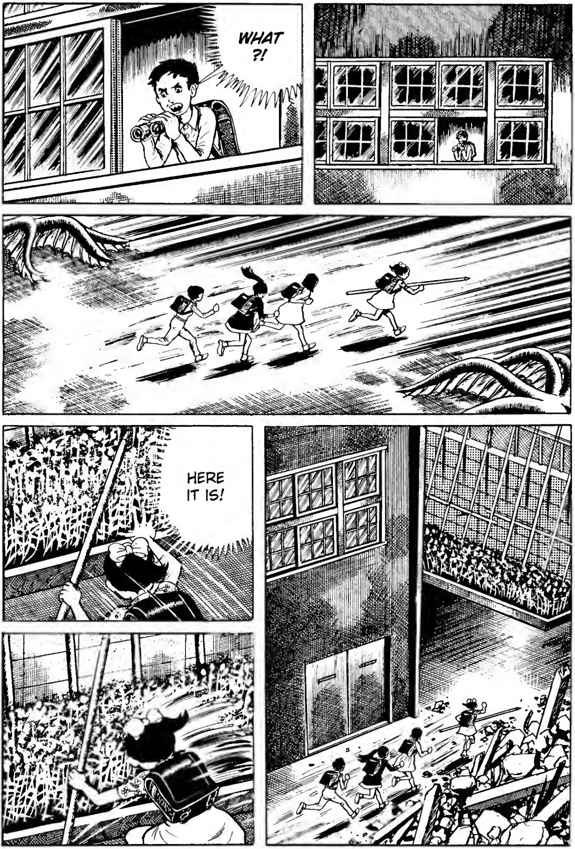

NWAAA
RIP SPLP
OH NO!
AAGGH
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
ST-STAY STILL! PLEASE STAY STILL!
THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO STOP THE PAIN!
PLEASE HELP HIM!
PLEASE GOD!
AAGGH!

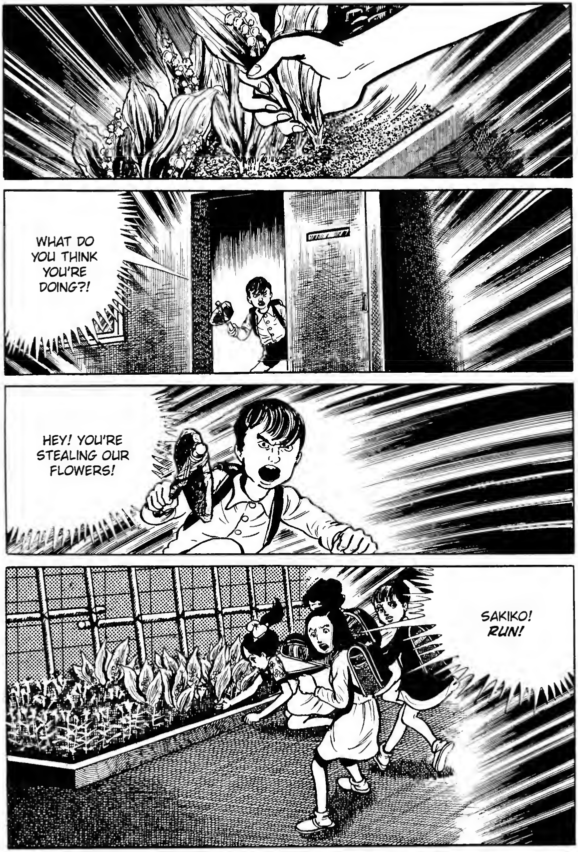

HUFF... HUFF...
OPEN UP THE INCISION!
O-OKAY!

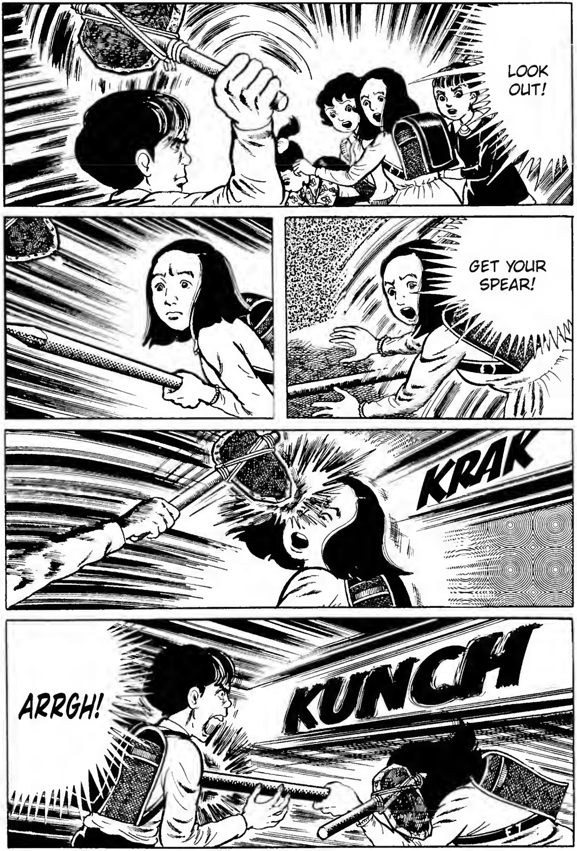

YOU HAVE TO KEEP IT OPEN WHILE I OPERATE!
OKAY! I'VE GOT IT!
NRRGG
I CAN'T SEE THE APPENDIX. *WIDER!*
OKAY!
GRRNGG

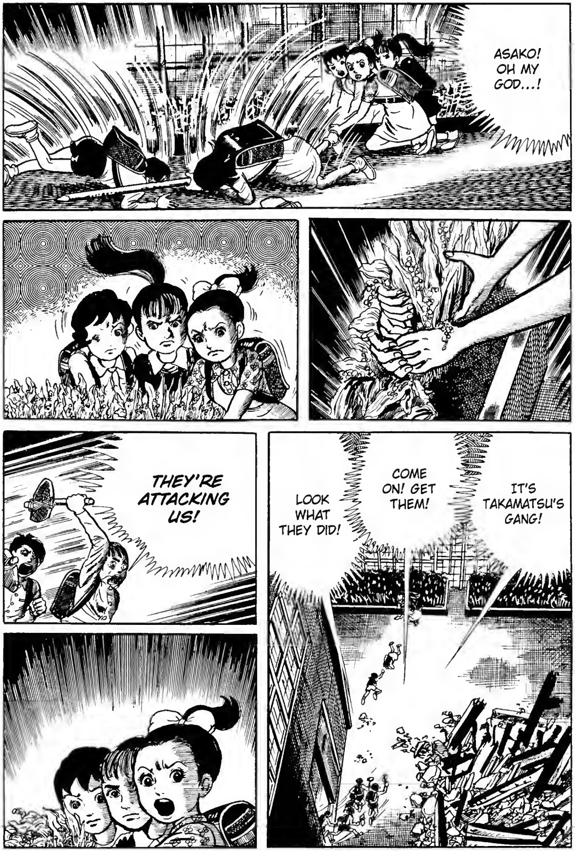

S-S-SOMEONE HELP HIM! WE NEED PAIN MEDICINE!
SAKIKO, CALM DOWN!
IT'S TOO LATE! THEY'RE OPERATING ON HIM!
NO, IT'S NOT!
THERE HAS TO BE A WAY!
UM...UH... SAKIKO, ARE THERE LILIES IN THE GARDEN?!
WE CAN USE THEM TO MAKE AN ANESTHETIC!
WHAT?!
WE CAN ALSO USE MUGWORT TO CLOT BLOOD! I'M NOT SURE HOW TO DO IT, BUT IT SAYS HERE THAT IT'S A COAGULANT!
I'LL GO GET SOME!

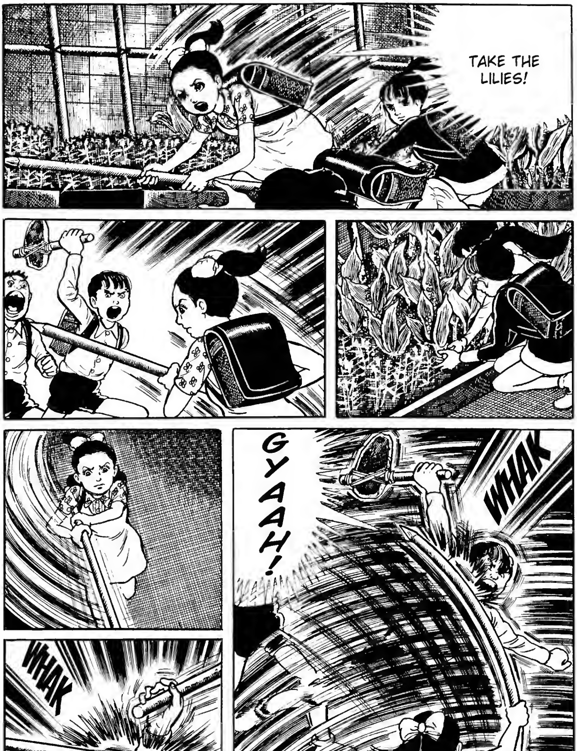

AND WHAT ABOUT THE MUTANT STARFISH?!
THE LILIES AND MUGWORT ARE PLANTED BY OTOMO'S BUILDINGS!
I DON'T CARE. I'M GOING!
WAIT, SAKIKO!
UM...UH... THE LILIES ARE POISONOUS, SO BE CAREFUL!
HOLD ON! I'M COMING WITH YOU!

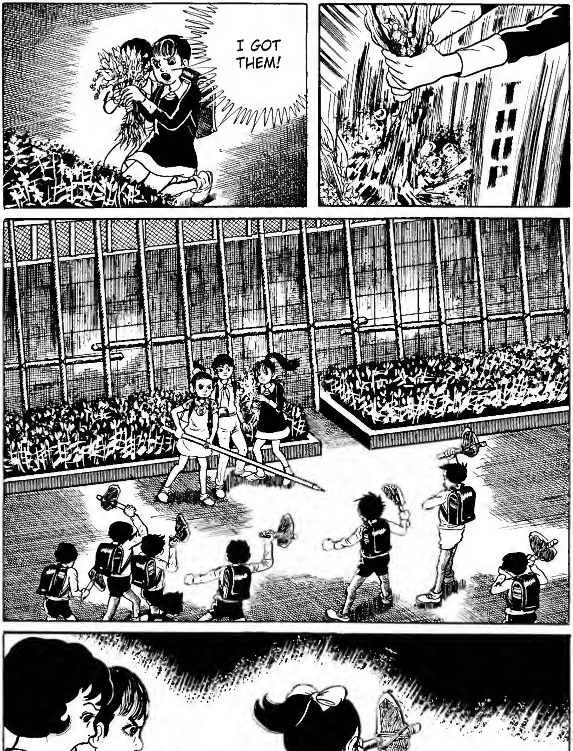

WHAT ?!
HERE IT IS!

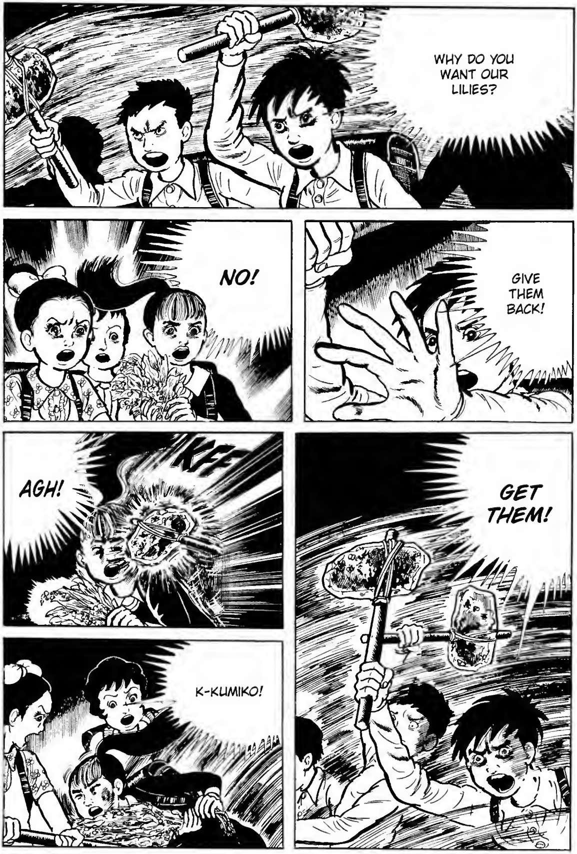

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
HEY! YOU'RE STEALING OUR FLOWERS!
SAKIKO! *RUN!*

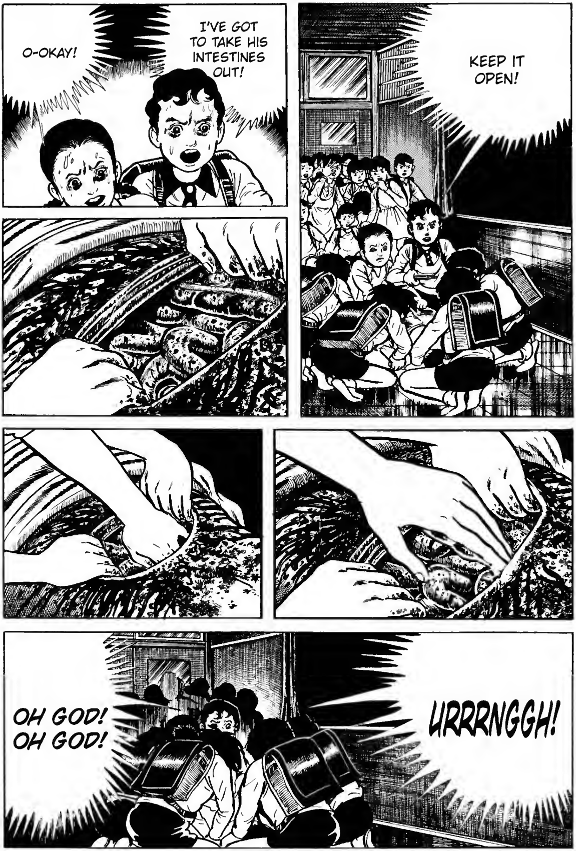

LOOK OUT!
GET YOUR SPEAR!
KRAK
ARRGH!
KUNCH

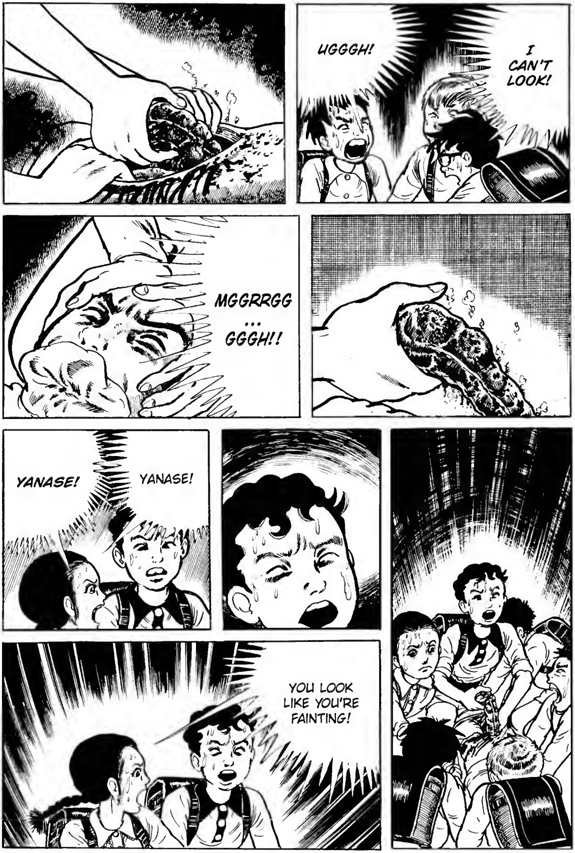

ASAKO! OH MY GOD...!
IT'S TAKAMATSU'S GANG!
COME ON! GET THEM!
LOOK WHAT THEY DID!
THEY'RE ATTACKING US!

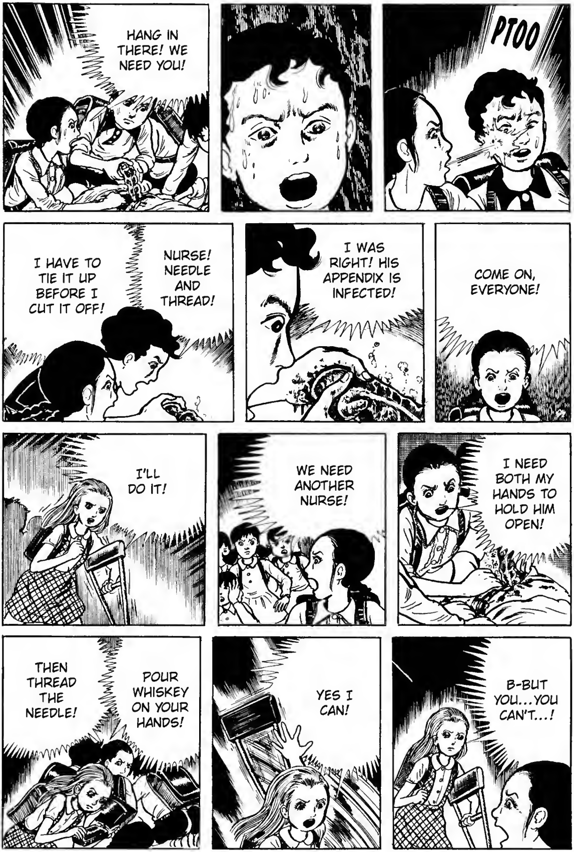

TAKE THE LILIES!
GYAAAH!
WHAK
WHAK

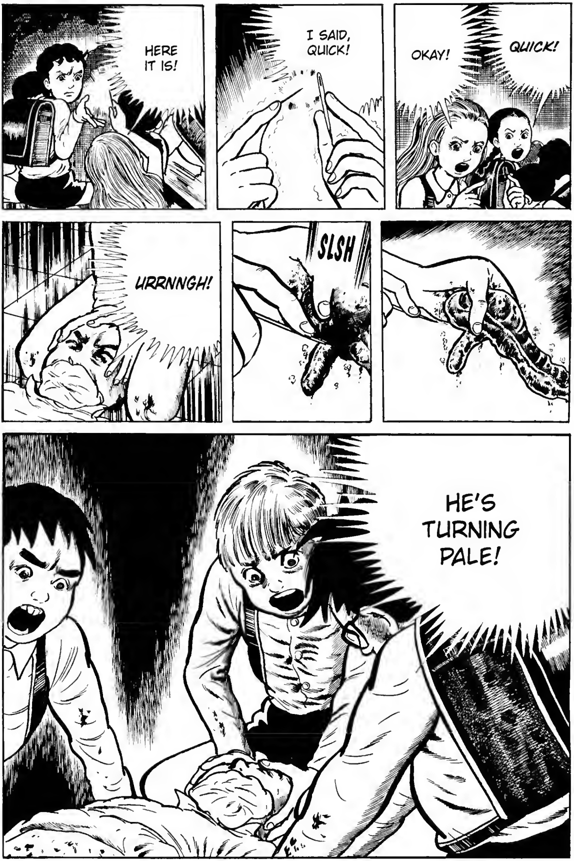

I GOT THEM!
THUP

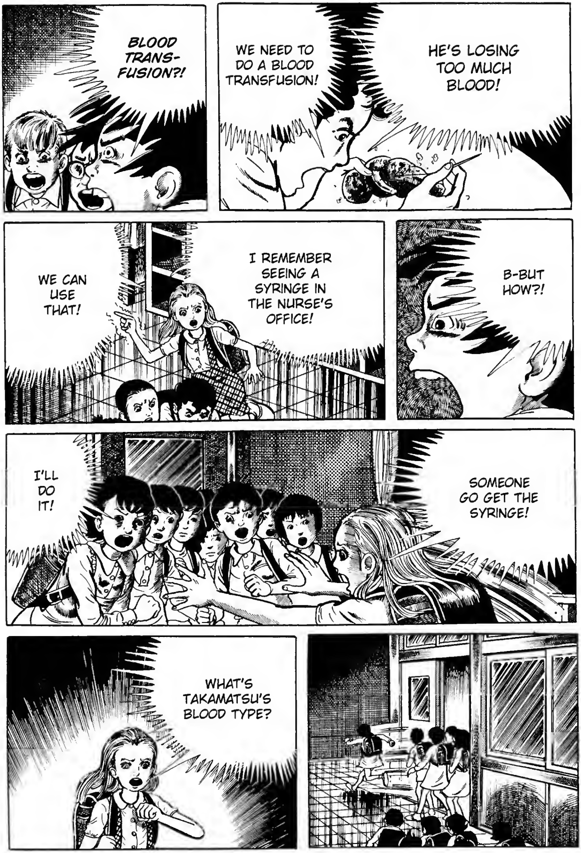

WHY DO YOU WANT OUR LILIES?
GIVE THEM BACK!
NO!
GET THEM!
KFF
AGH!
K-KUMIKO!

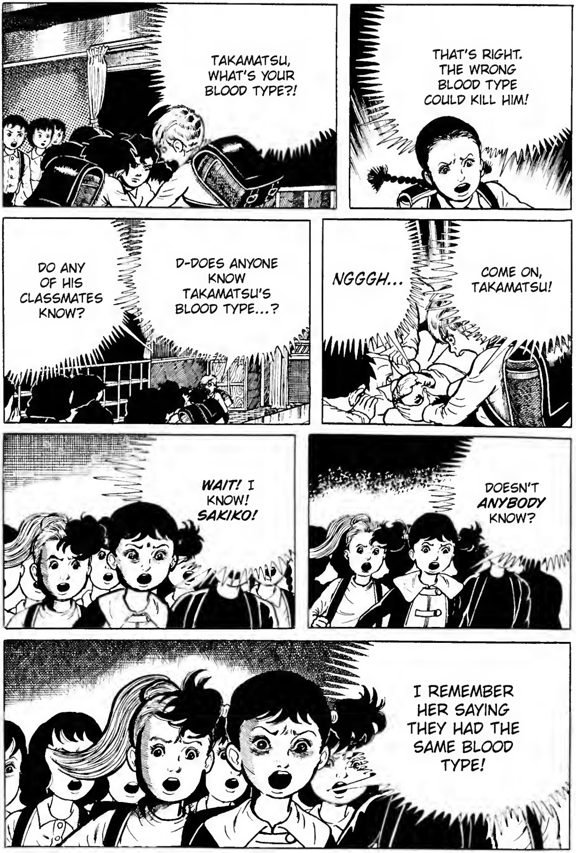

I'VE GOT TO TAKE HIS INTESTINES OUT!
O-OKAY!
KEEP IT OPEN!
OH GOD! OH GOD!
URRRNGGH!

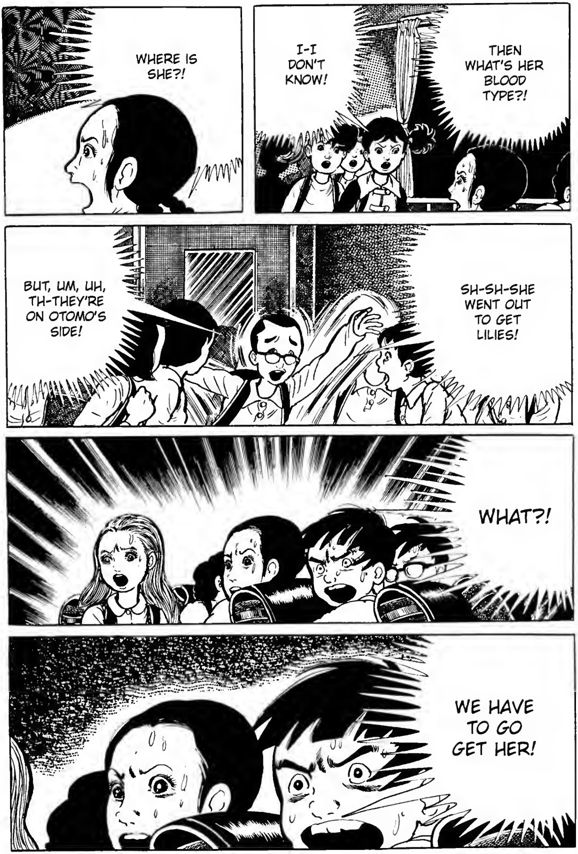

I CAN'T LOOK!
UGGGH!
MGGRRGG ... GGGH!!
YANASE!
YANASE!
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE FAINTING!

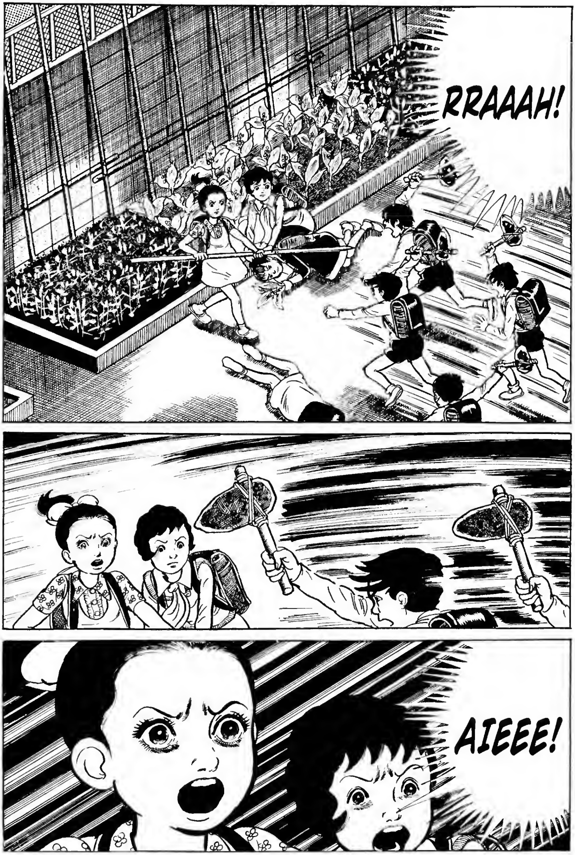

PTOO
HANG IN THERE! WE NEED YOU!
COME ON, EVERYONE!
I WAS RIGHT! HIS APPENDIX IS INFECTED!
NURSE! NEEDLE AND THREAD!
I HAVE TO TIE IT UP BEFORE I CUT IT OFF!
I NEED BOTH MY HANDS TO HOLD HIM OPEN!
WE NEED ANOTHER NURSE!
I'LL DO IT!
B-BUT YOU...YOU CAN'T...!
YES I CAN!
POUR WHISKEY ON YOUR HANDS!
THEN THREAD THE NEEDLE!

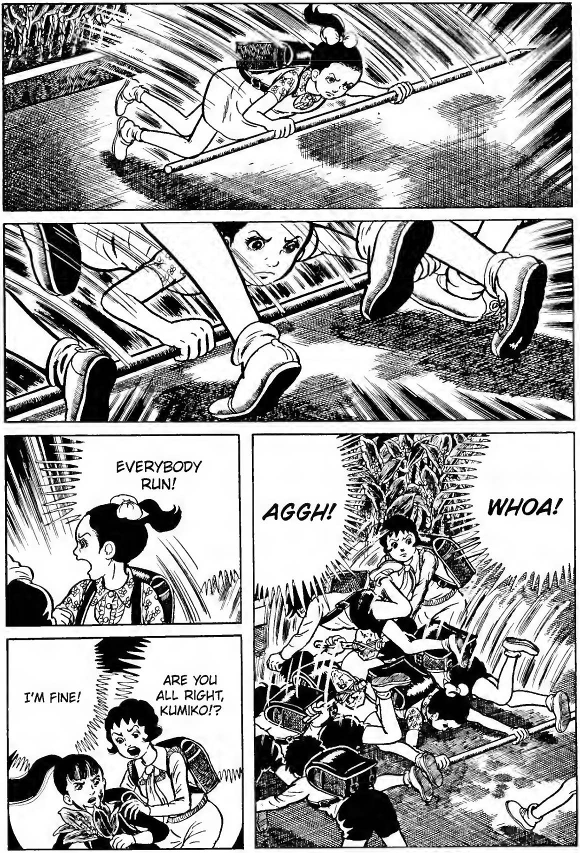

HERE IT IS!
I SAID, QUICK!
OKAY!
QUICK!
URRNNGH!
SLSH
HE'S TURNING PALE!

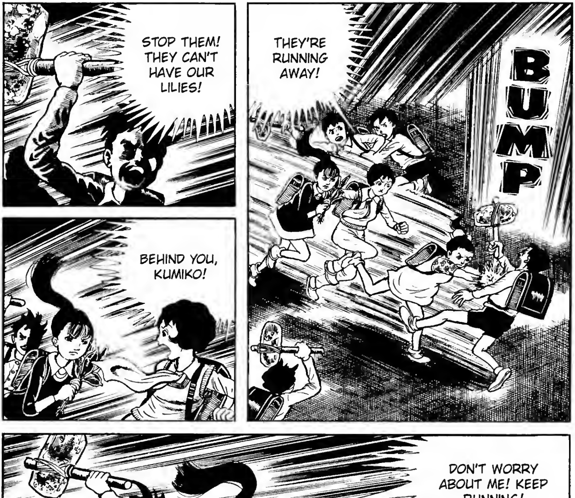

HE'S LOSING TOO MUCH BLOOD!
WE NEED TO DO A BLOOD TRANSFUSION!
BLOOD TRANSFUSION?!
B-BUT HOW?!
I REMEMBER SEEING A SYRINGE IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE!
WE CAN USE THAT!
SOMEONE GO GET THE SYRINGE!
I'LL DO IT!
WHAT'S TAKAMATSU'S BLOOD TYPE?

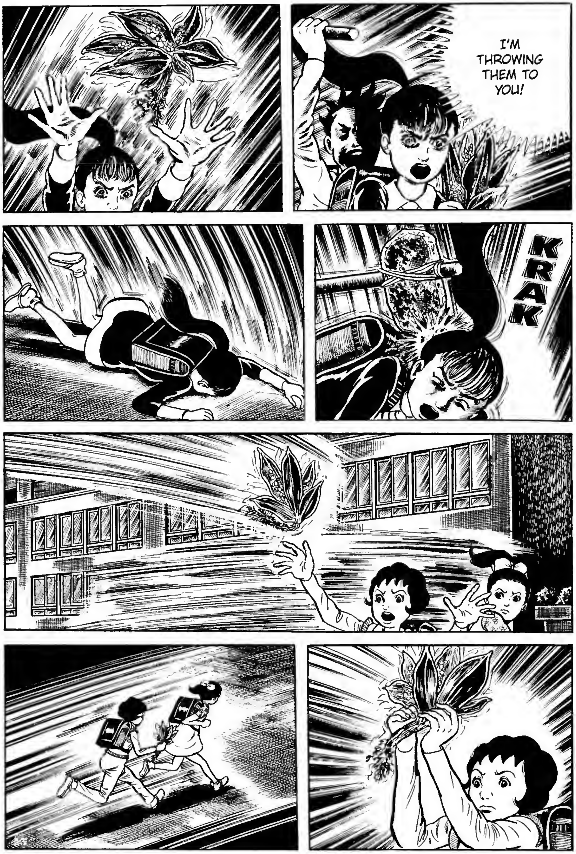

THAT'S RIGHT. THE WRONG BLOOD TYPE COULD KILL HIM!
TAKAMATSU, WHAT'S YOUR BLOOD TYPE?!
COME ON, TAKAMATSU!
NGGGH...
D-DOES ANYONE KNOW TAKAMATSU'S BLOOD TYPE...?
DO ANY OF HIS CLASSMATES KNOW?
DOESN'T *ANYBODY* KNOW?
WAIT! I KNOW! *SAKIKO!*
I REMEMBER HER SAYING THEY HAD THE SAME BLOOD TYPE!

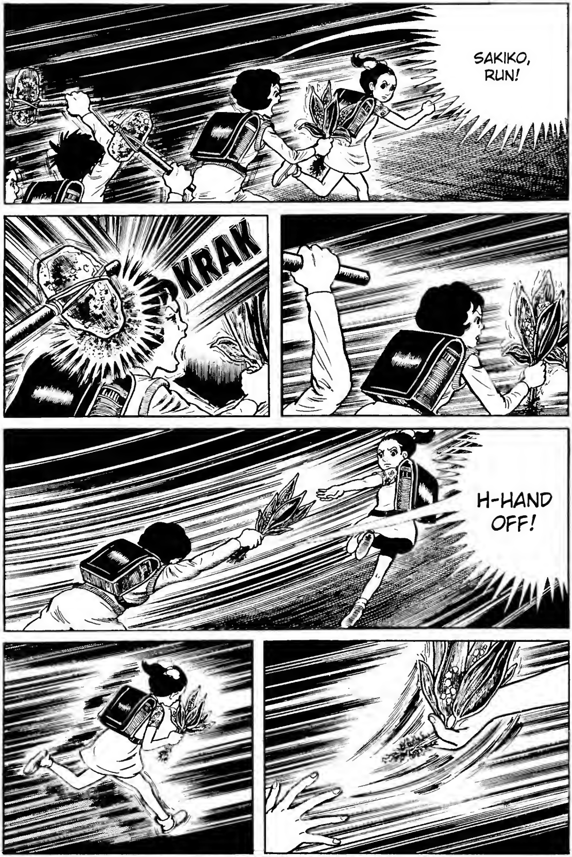

THEN WHAT'S HER BLOOD TYPE?!
I-I DON'T KNOW!
WHERE IS SHE?!
SH-SH-SHE WENT OUT TO GET LILIES!
BUT, UM, UH, TH-THEY'RE ON OTOMO'S SIDE!
WHAT?!
WE HAVE TO GO GET HER!

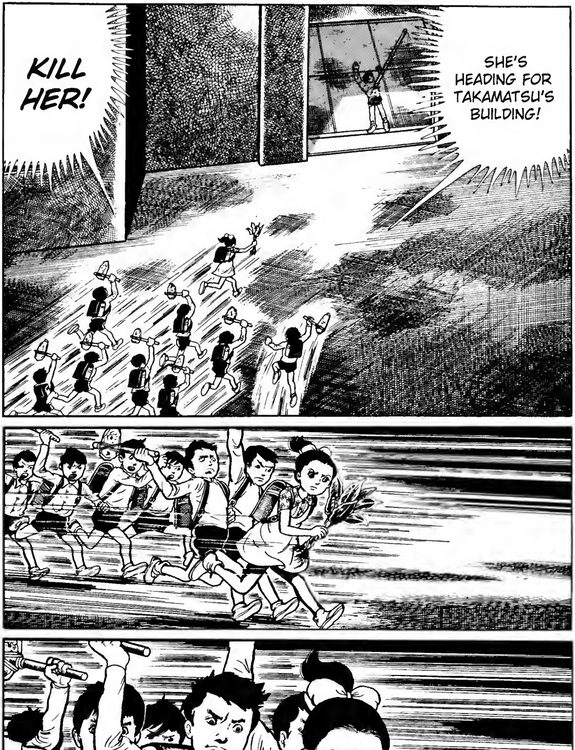

RRAAAH!
AIEEE!

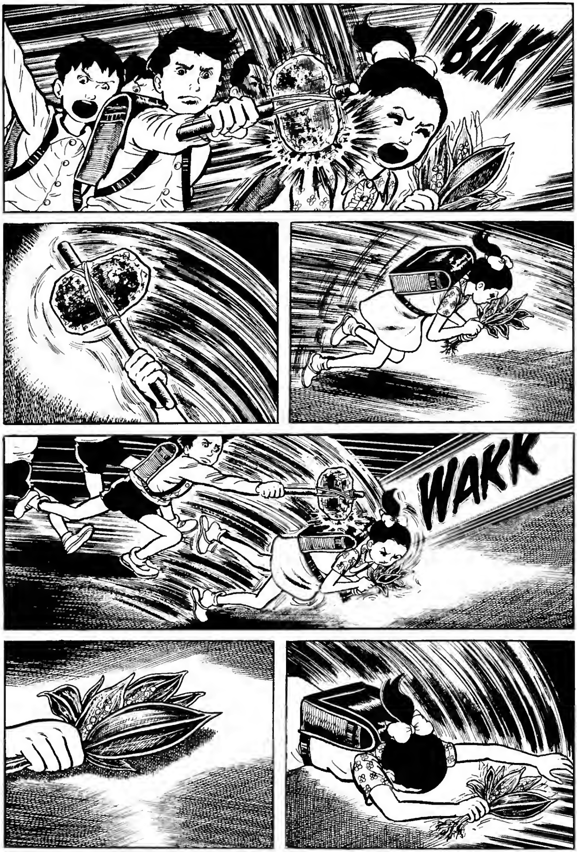

EVERYBODY RUN!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, KUMIKO!?
I'M FINE!
AGGH!
WHOA!

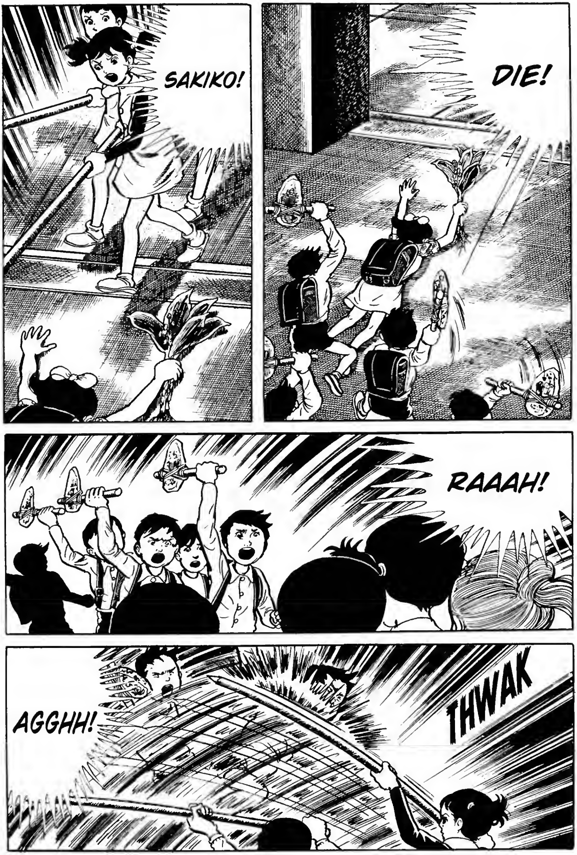

STOP THEM! THEY CAN'T HAVE OUR LILIES!
THEY'RE RUNNING AWAY!
BUMP
BEHIND YOU, KUMIKO!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME! KEEP RUNNING!

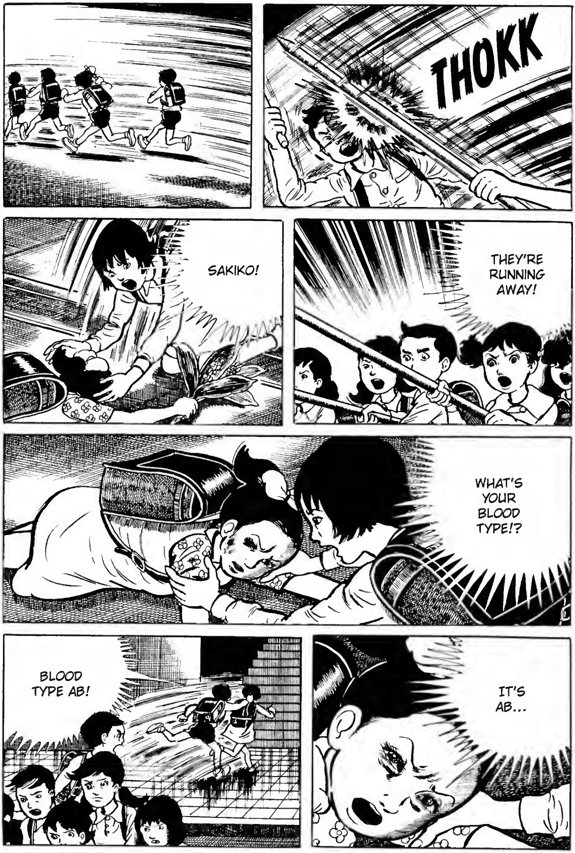

I'M THROWING THEM TO YOU!
KRAK

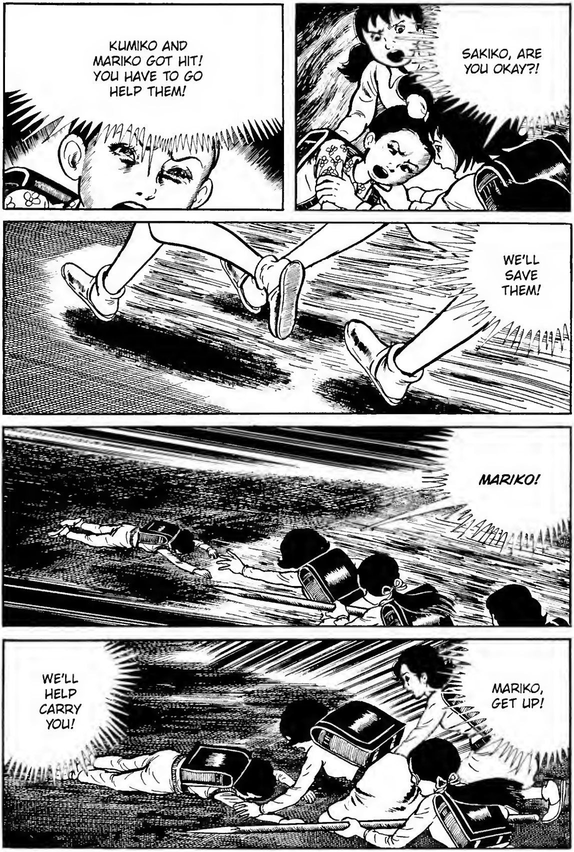

SAKIKO, RUN!
KRAK
H-HAND OFF!

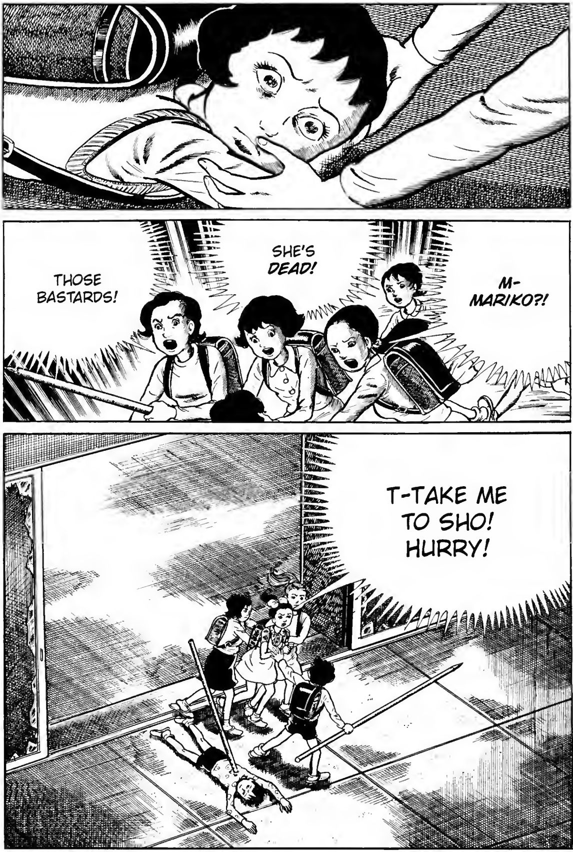

SHE'S HEADING FOR TAKAMATSU'S BUILDING!
KILL HER!

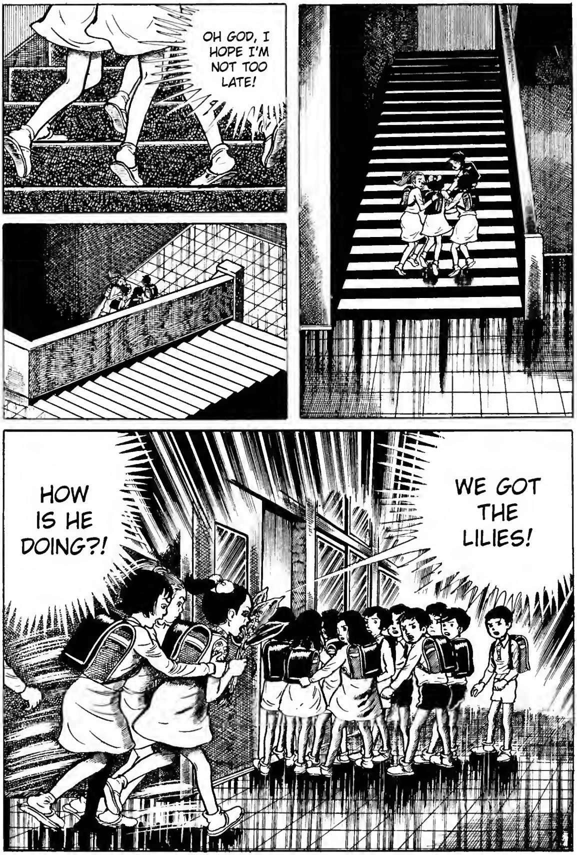

BAK
WAKK

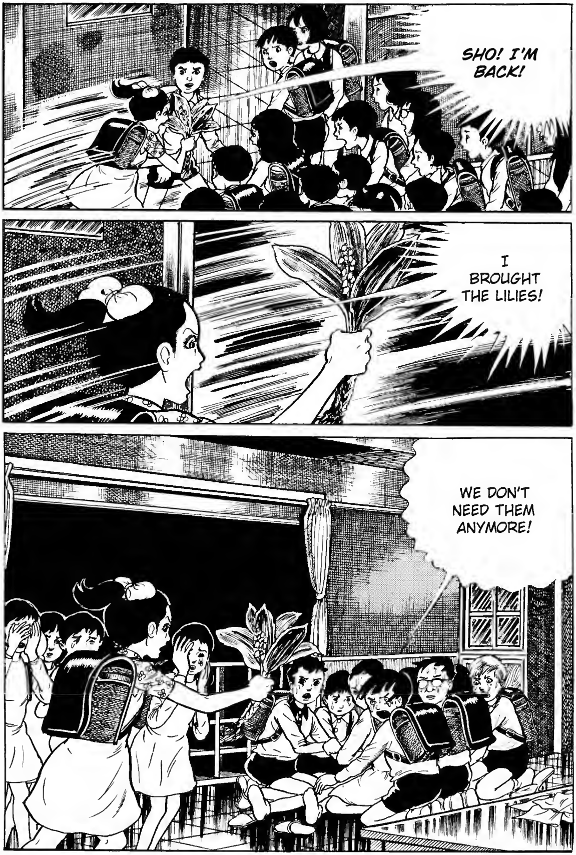

DIE!
SAKIKO!
RAAAH!
THWAK
AGGHH!

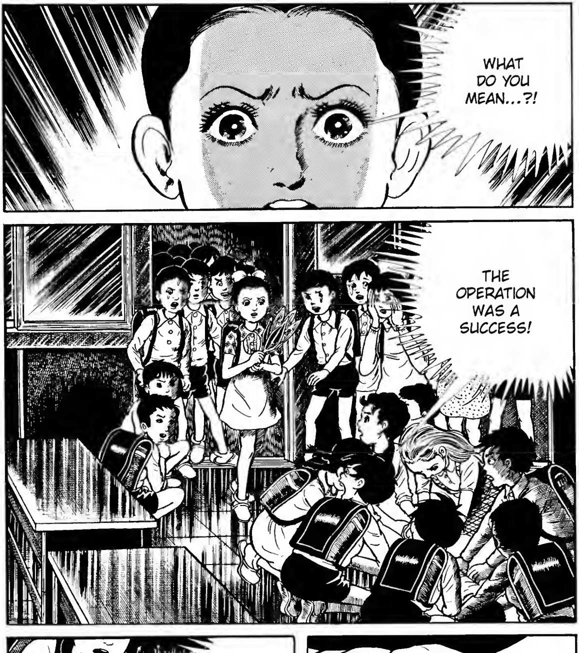

THOKK
SAKIKO!
THEY'RE RUNNING AWAY!
WHAT'S YOUR BLOOD TYPE!?
BLOOD TYPE AB!
IT'S AB...

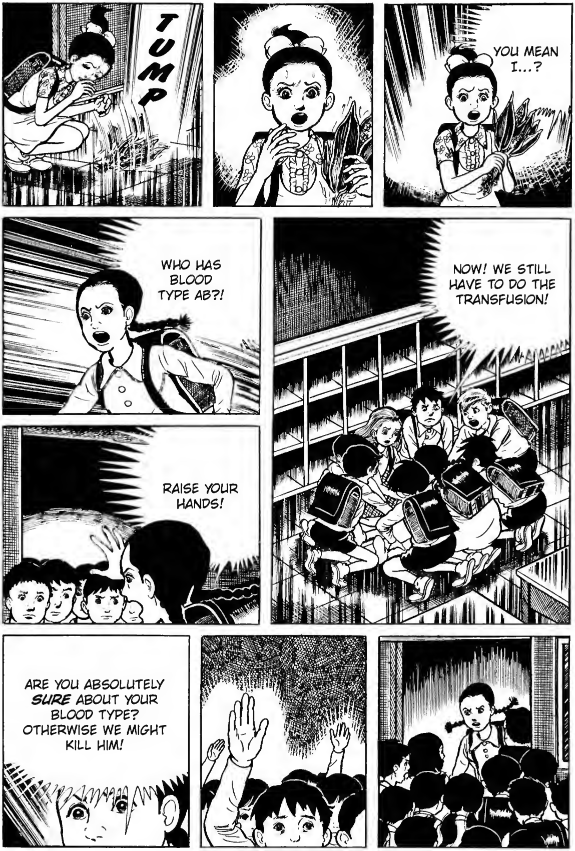

SAKIKO, ARE YOU OKAY?!
KUMIKO AND MARIKO GOT HIT! YOU HAVE TO GO HELP THEM!
WE'LL SAVE THEM!
MARIKO!
MARIKO, GET UP!
WE'LL HELP CARRY YOU!

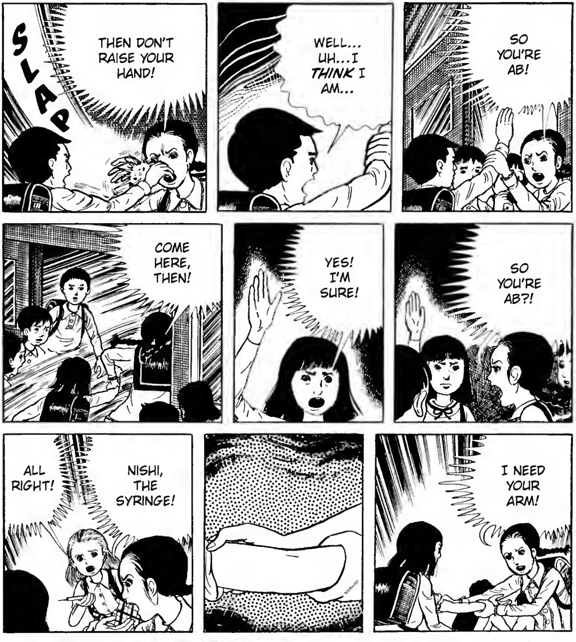

M-
MARIKO?!
SHE'S *DEAD!*
THOSE BASTARDS!
T-TAKE ME TO SHO! HURRY!

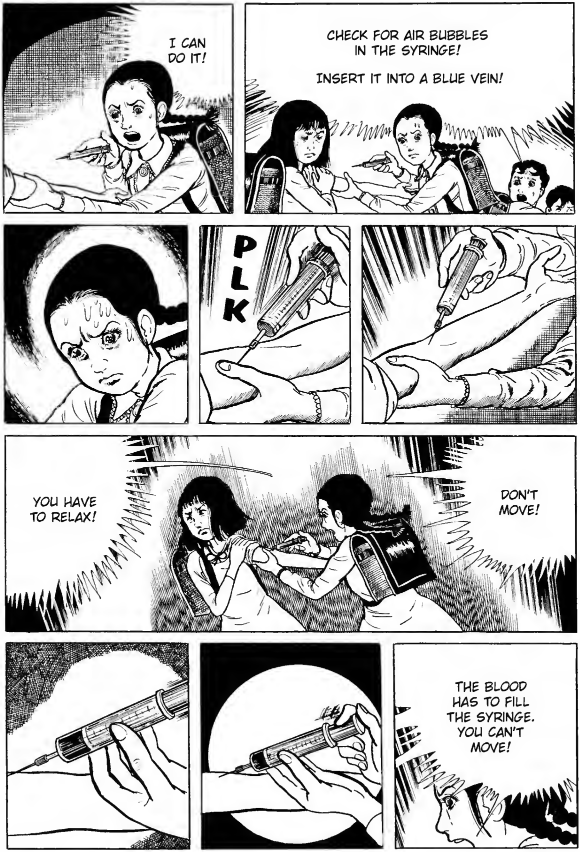

OH GOD, I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE!
WE GOT THE LILIES!
HOW IS HE DOING?!

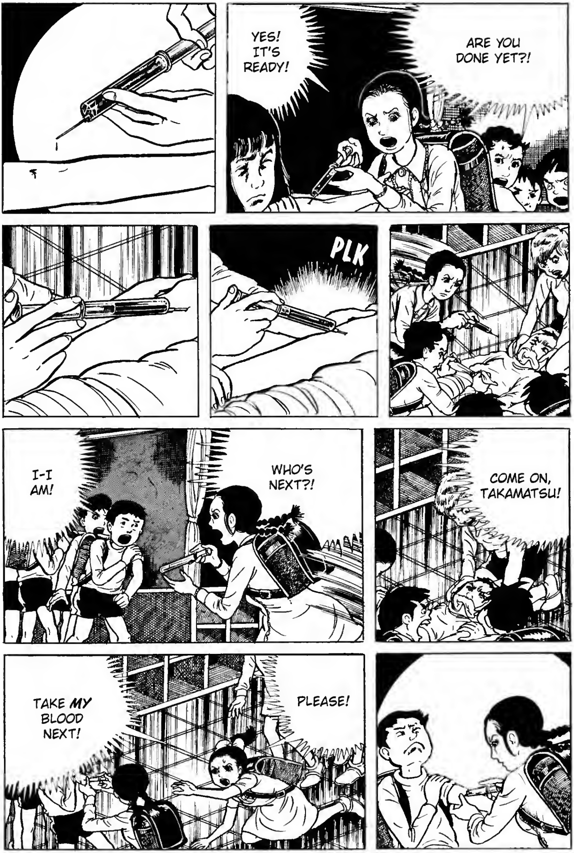

SHO! I'M BACK!
I BROUGHT THE LILIES!
WE DON'T NEED THEM ANYMORE!

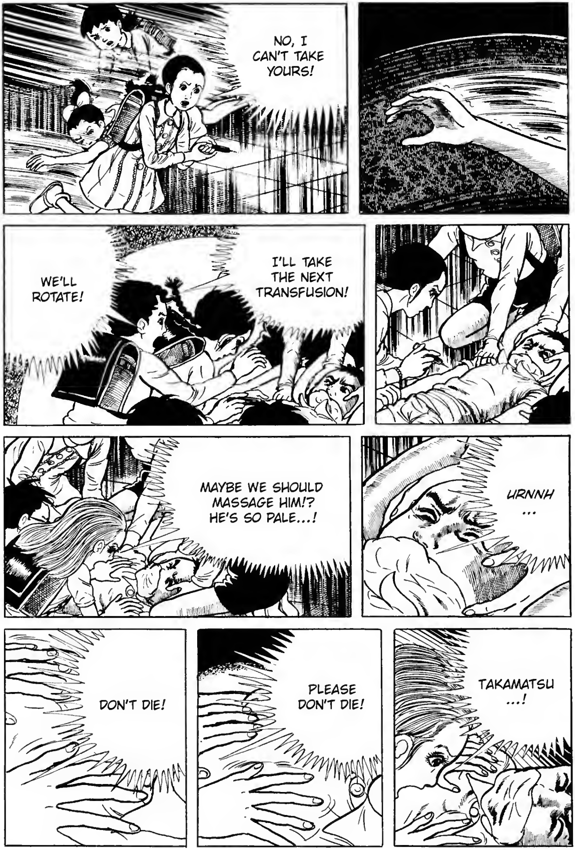

WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?!
THE OPERATION WAS A SUCCESS!
WE'VE JUST FINISHED THE STITCHES!

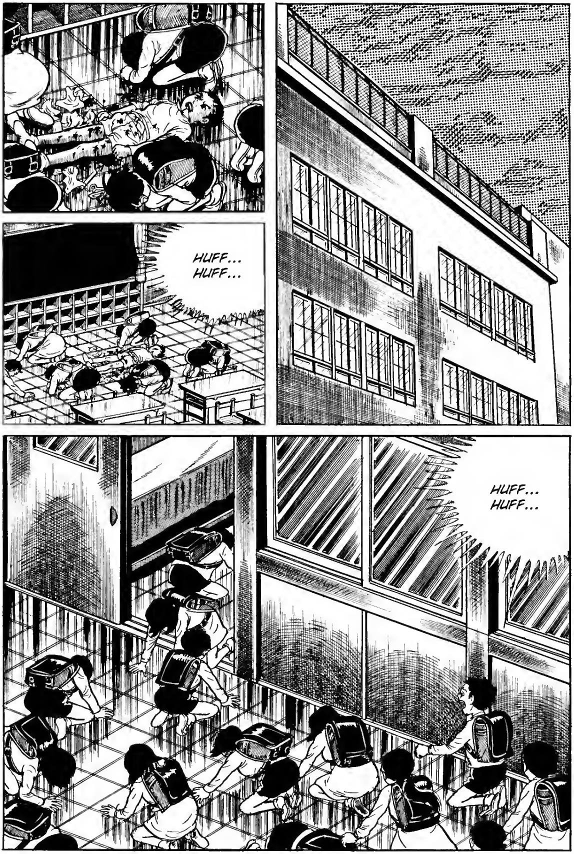

TUMP
YOU MEAN I...?
WHO HAS BLOOD TYPE AB?!
NOW! WE STILL HAVE TO DO THE TRANSFUSION!
RAISE YOUR HANDS!
ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY *SURE* ABOUT YOUR BLOOD TYPE? OTHERWISE WE MIGHT KILL HIM!

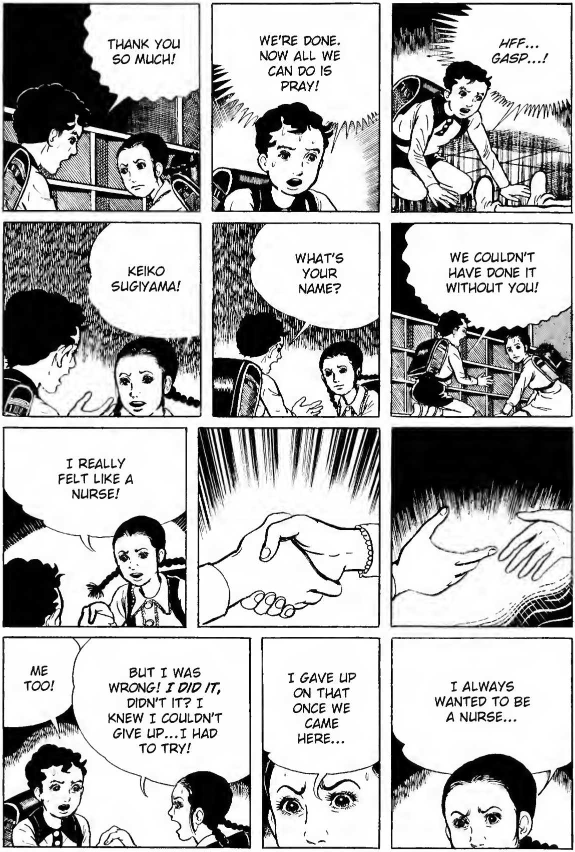

SLAP
THEN DON'T RAISE YOUR HAND!
WELL... UH...I *THINK* I AM...
SO YOU'RE AB!
COME HERE, THEN!
YES! I'M SURE!
SO YOU'RE AB?!
ALL RIGHT!
NISHI, THE SYRINGE!
I NEED YOUR ARM!
OKAY!
GATHER ALL THE OTHER AB STUDENTS!

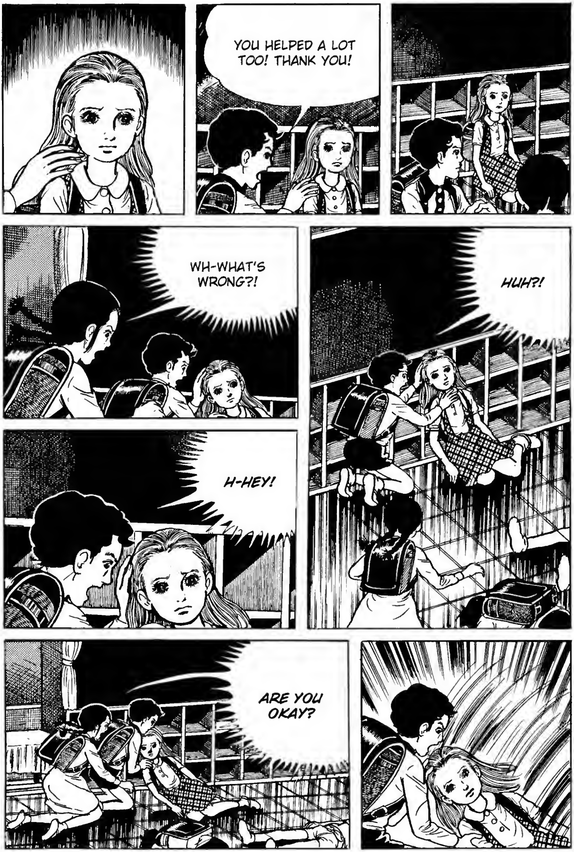

I CAN DO IT!
CHECK FOR AIR BUBBLES IN THE SYRINGE!
INSERT IT INTO A BLUE VEIN!
PLK
YOU HAVE TO RELAX!
DON'T MOVE!
THE BLOOD HAS TO FILL THE SYRINGE. YOU CAN'T MOVE!

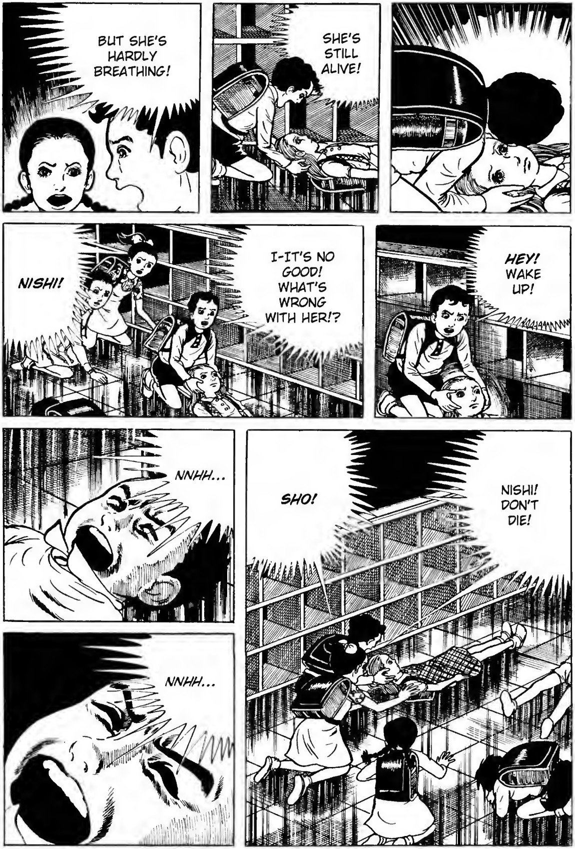

ARE YOU DONE YET?!
YES! IT'S READY!
PLK
COME ON, TAKAMATSU!
WHO'S NEXT?!
I-I AM!
PLEASE!
TAKE *MY* BLOOD NEXT!

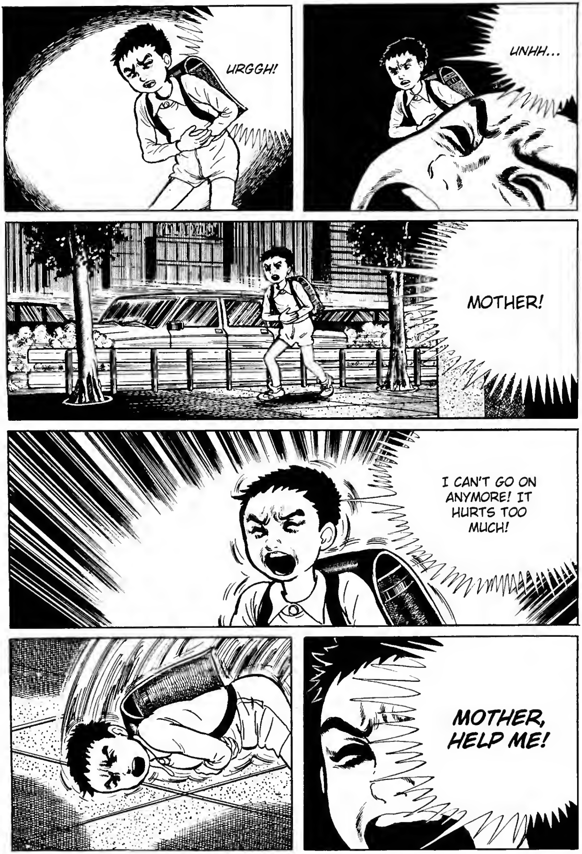

NO, I CAN'T TAKE YOURS!
WE'LL ROTATE!
I'LL TAKE THE NEXT TRANSFUSION!
MAYBE WE SHOULD MASSAGE HIM!? HE'S SO PALE...!
URNNH ...
DON'T DIE!
PLEASE DON'T DIE!
TAKAMATSU ...!

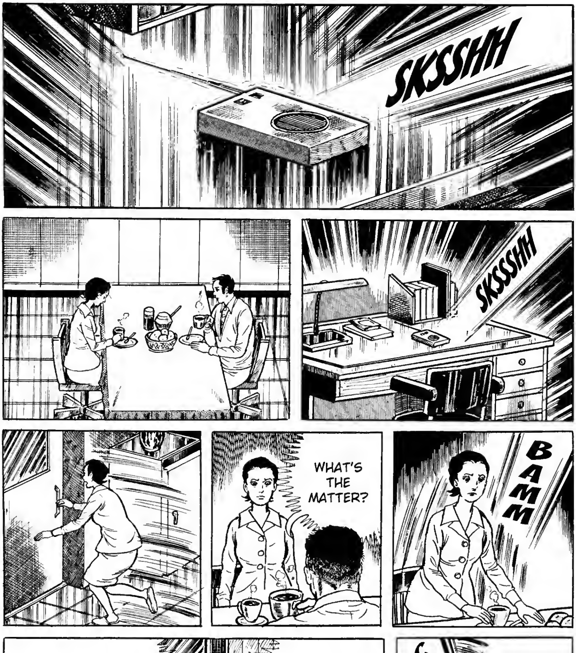

HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...

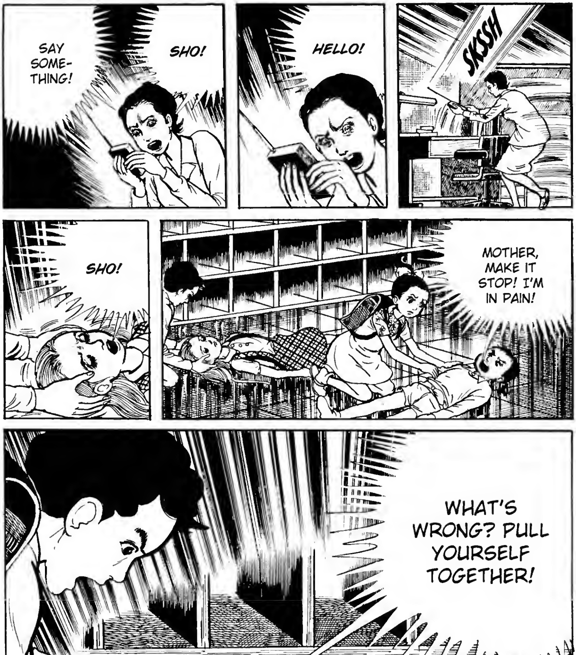

HFF... GASP...!
WE'RE DONE. NOW ALL WE CAN DO IS PRAY!
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
KEIKO SUGIYAMA!
I REALLY FELT LIKE A NURSE!
I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A NURSE...
I GAVE UP ON THAT ONCE WE CAME HERE...
BUT I WAS WRONG! *I DID IT,* DIDN'T IT? I KNEW I COULDN'T GIVE UP...I HAD TO TRY!
ME TOO!

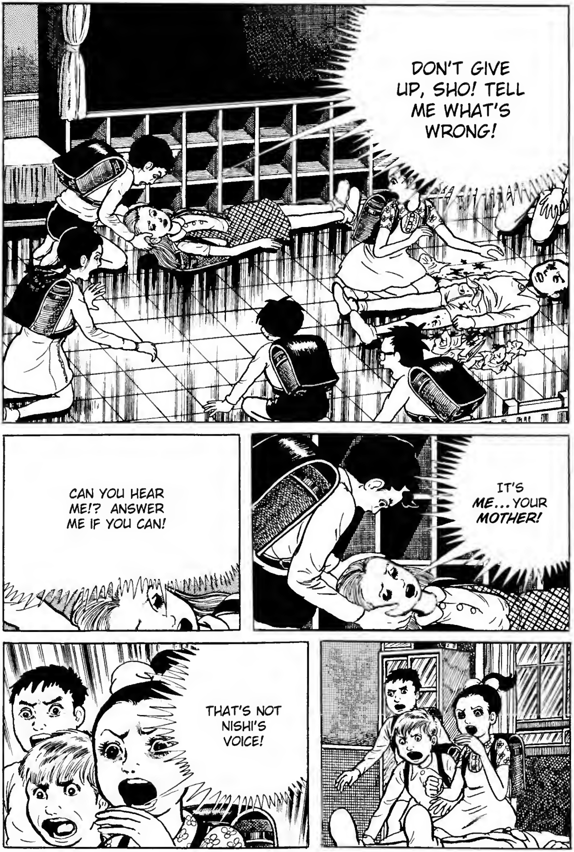

YOU HELPED A LOT TOO! THANK YOU!
HUH?!
WH-WHAT'S WRONG?!
H-HEY!
ARE YOU OKAY?

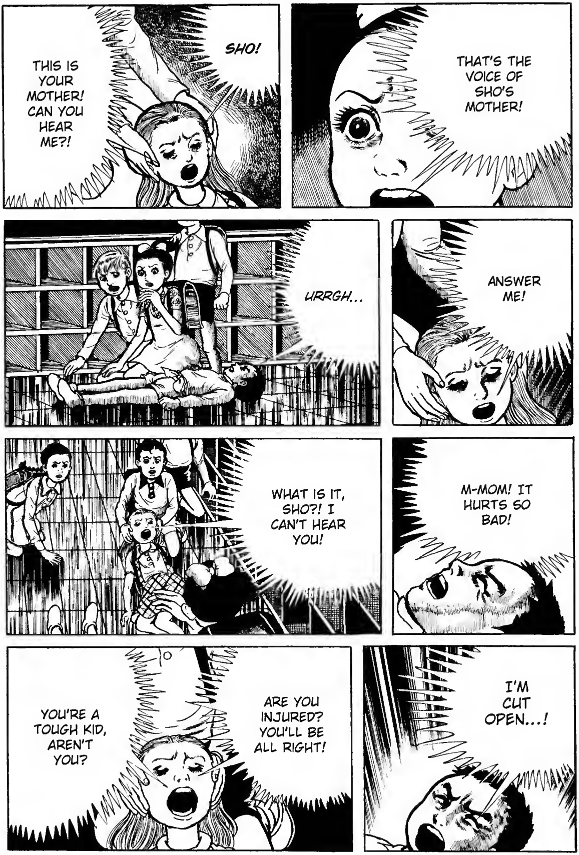

BUT SHE'S HARDLY BREATHING!
SHE'S STILL ALIVE!
NISHI!
I-IT'S NO GOOD! WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER!?
HEY! WAKE UP!
NNHH...
NNHH...
SHO!
NISHI! DON'T DIE!

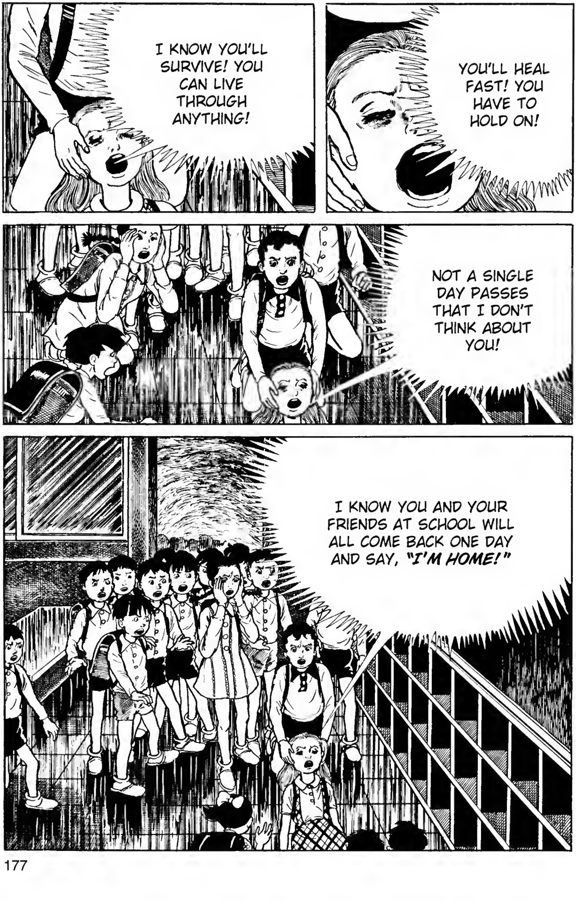

URGGH!
UNHH...
MOTHER!
I CAN'T GO ON ANYMORE! IT HURTS TOO MUCH!
MOTHER, HELP ME!

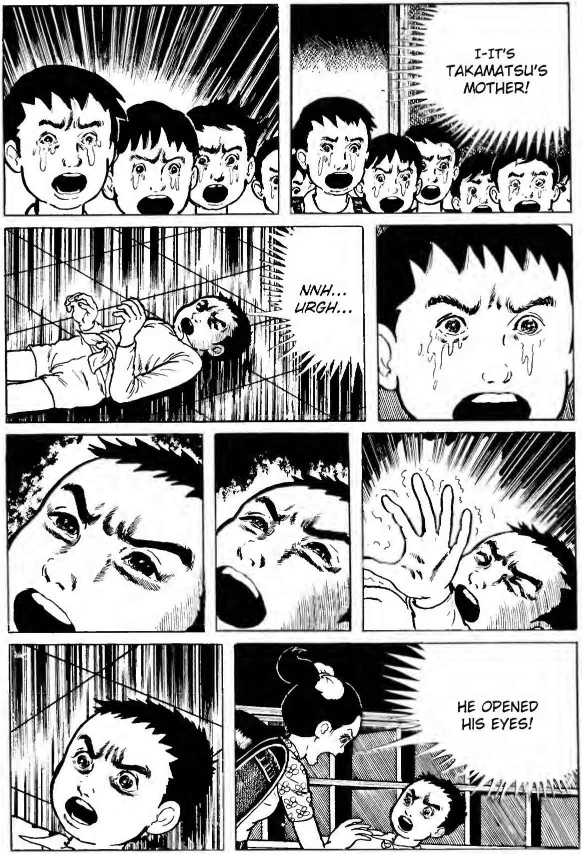

SKSSHH
SKSSSHH
BAMM
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
CHAK
A SIGNAL FROM SHO!
I KNEW HE'D CONTACT ME!
THAT'S WHY I LEFT HIS WALKIE-TALKIE ON THIS WHOLE TIME!

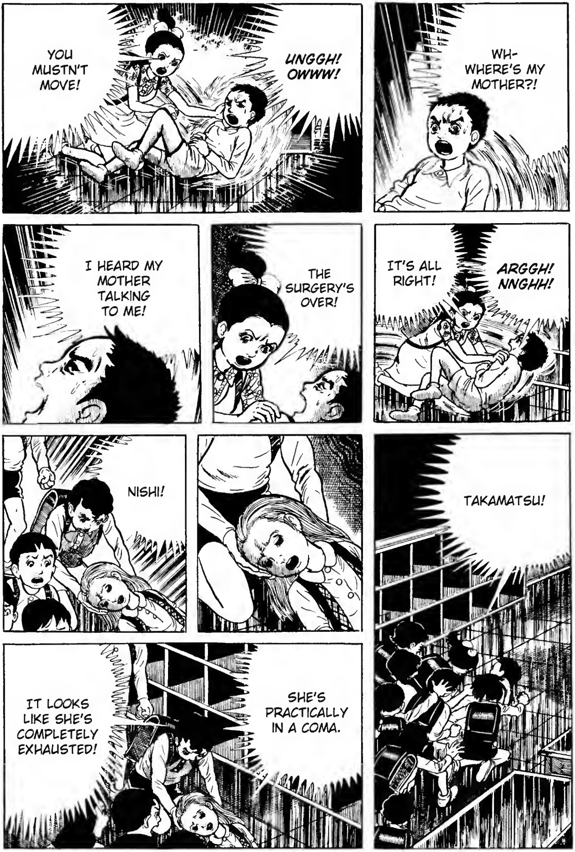

SAY SOMETHING!
SHO!
HELLO!
SKSSH
SHO!
MOTHER, MAKE IT STOP! I'M IN PAIN!
WHAT'S WRONG? PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!

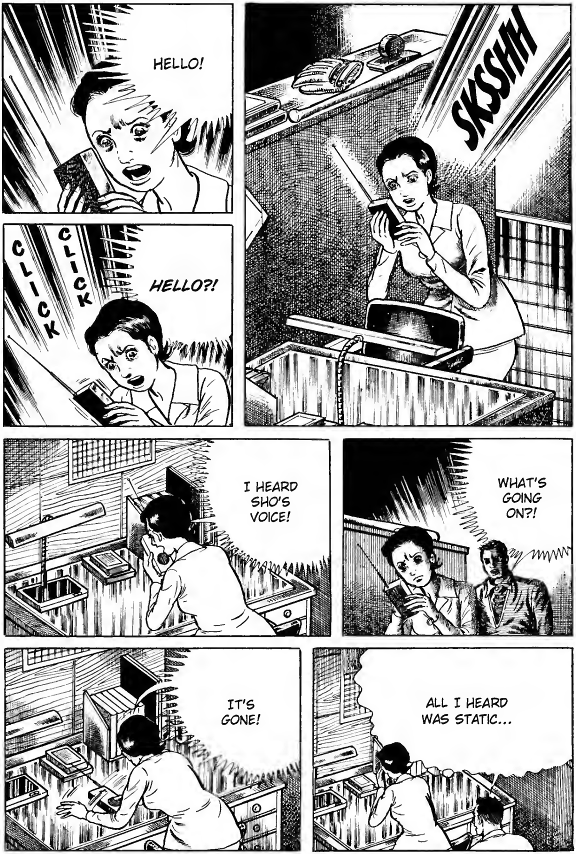

DON'T GIVE UP, SHO! TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG!
CAN YOU HEAR ME!? ANSWER ME IF YOU CAN!
IT'S *ME*... YOUR *MOTHER!*
THAT'S NOT NISHI'S VOICE!

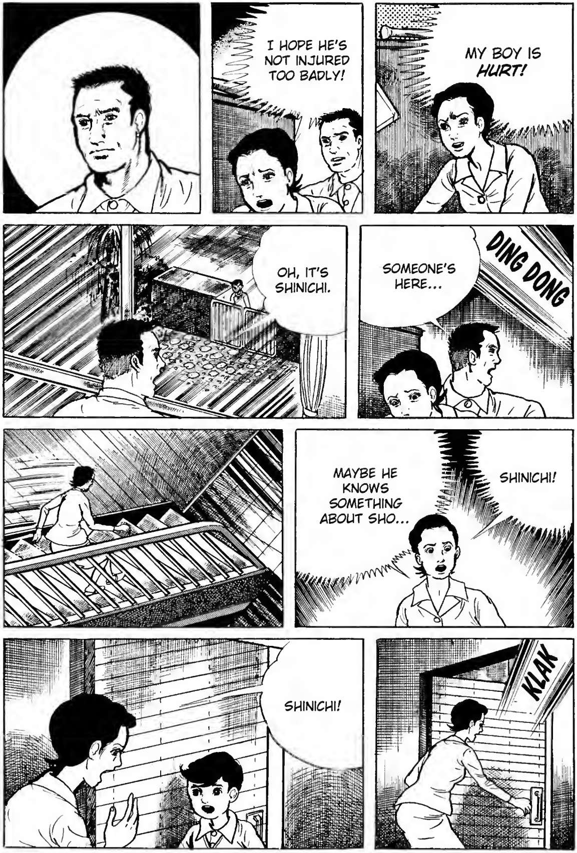

SHO!
THIS IS YOUR MOTHER! CAN YOU HEAR ME?!
THAT'S THE VOICE OF SHO'S MOTHER!
URRGH...
ANSWER ME!
WHAT IS IT, SHO?! I CAN'T HEAR YOU!
M-MOM! IT HURTS SO BAD!
ARE YOU INJURED? YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
YOU'RE A TOUGH KID, AREN'T YOU?
I'M CUT OPEN...!

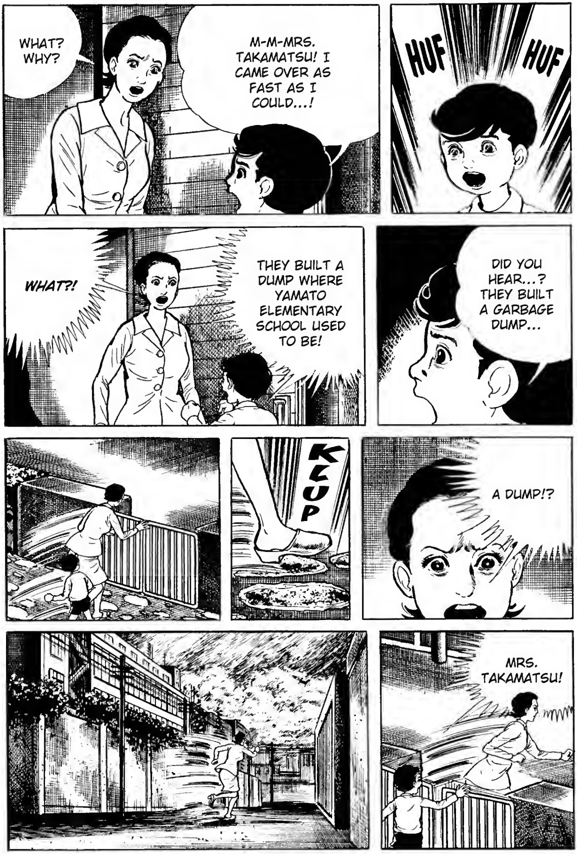

YOU'LL HEAL FAST! YOU HAVE TO HOLD ON!
I KNOW YOU'LL SURVIVE! YOU CAN LIVE THROUGH ANYTHING!
NOT A SINGLE DAY PASSES THAT I DON'T THINK ABOUT YOU!
I KNOW YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS AT SCHOOL WILL ALL COME BACK ONE DAY AND SAY, *"I'M HOME!"*

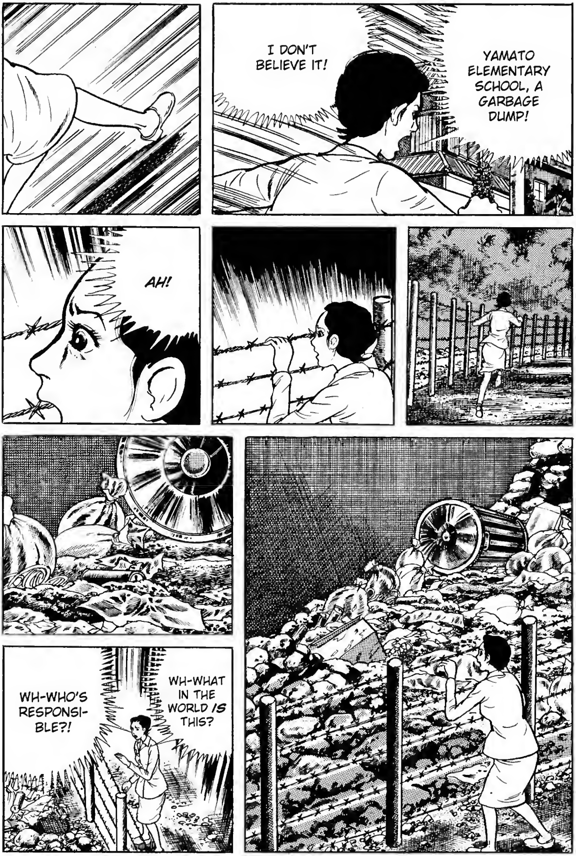

I-IT'S TAKAMATSU'S MOTHER!
NNH... URGH...
HE OPENED HIS EYES!

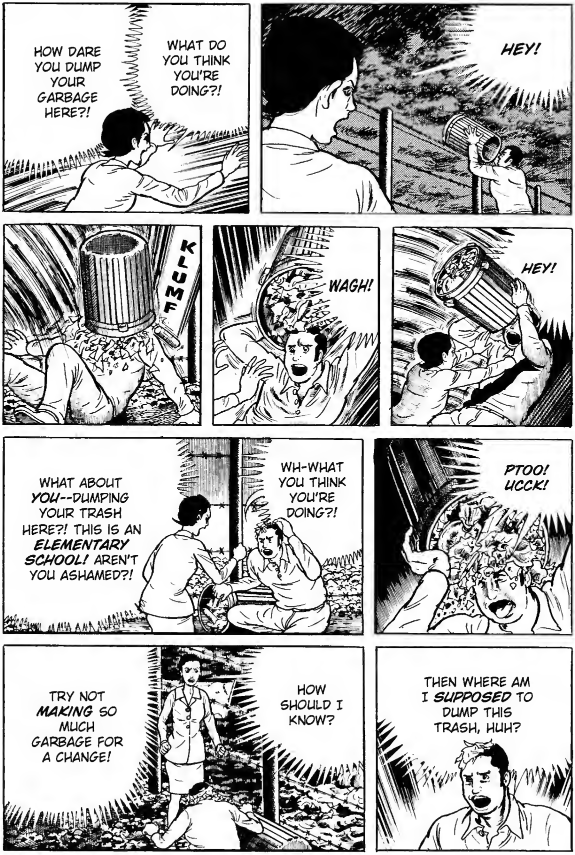

YOU MUSTN'T MOVE!
UNGGH! OWWW!
WH- WHERE'S MY MOTHER?!
I HEARD MY MOTHER TALKING TO ME!
THE SURGERY'S OVER!
IT'S ALL RIGHT!
ARGGH! NNGHH!
NISHI!
TAKAMATSU!
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED!
SHE'S PRACTICALLY IN A COMA.

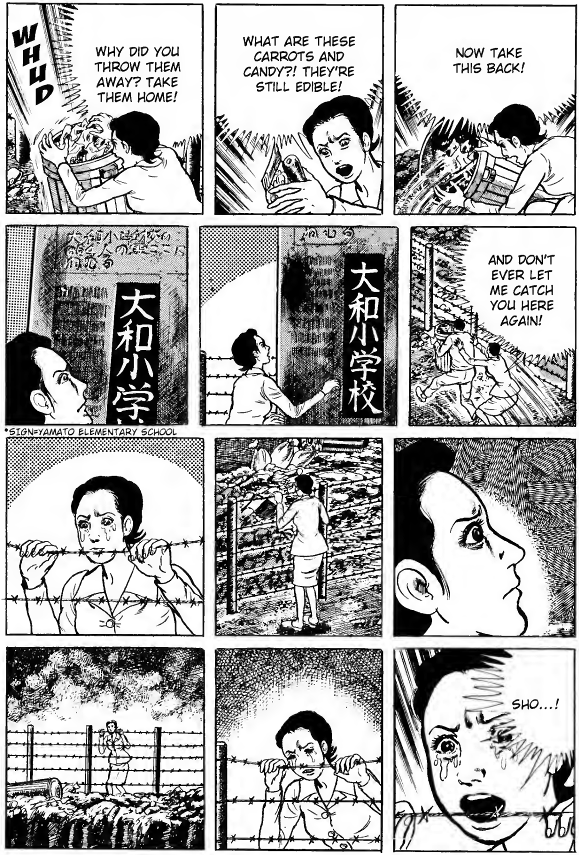

HELLO!
CLICK
CLICK
HELLO?!
SKSSHH
I HEARD SHO'S VOICE!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
IT'S GONE!
ALL I HEARD WAS STATIC...

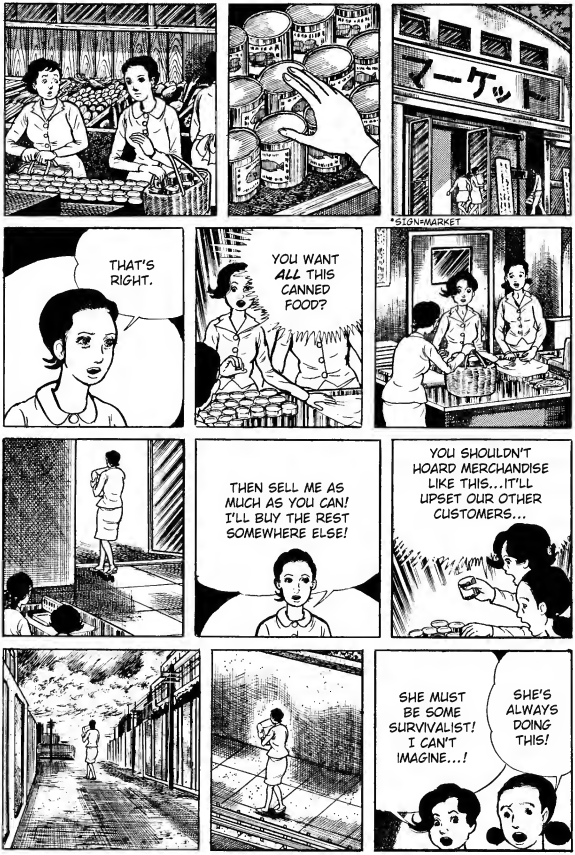

MY BOY IS *HURT!*
I HOPE HE'S NOT INJURED TOO BADLY!
DING DONG
SOMEONE'S HERE...
OH, IT'S SHINICHI.
SHINICHI!
MAYBE HE KNOWS SOMETHING ABOUT SHO...
KLAK
SHINICHI!

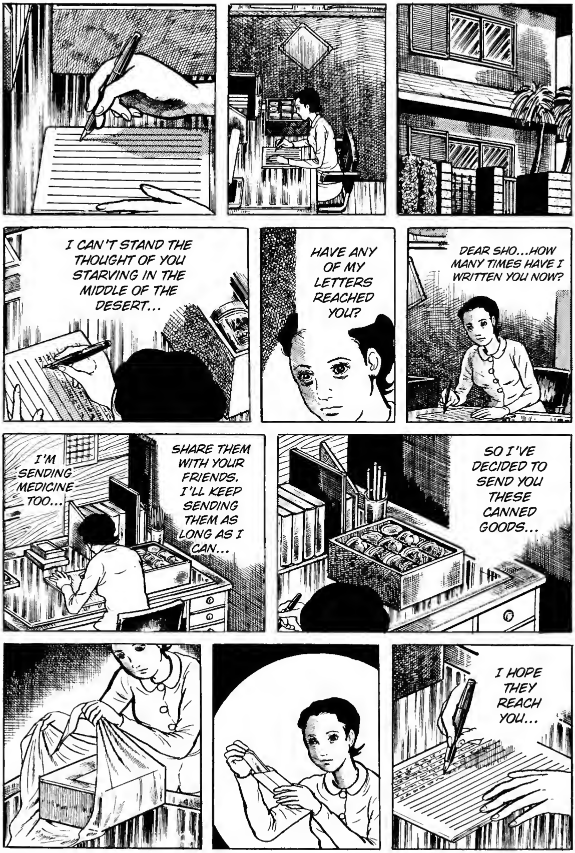

HUF HUF
M-M-MRS. TAKAMATSU! I CAME OVER AS FAST AS I COULD...!
WHAT? WHY?
DID YOU HEAR...? THEY BUILT A GARBAGE DUMP...
THEY BUILT A DUMP WHERE YAMATO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL USED TO BE!
WHAT?!
A DUMP!?
KLUP
MRS. TAKAMATSU!

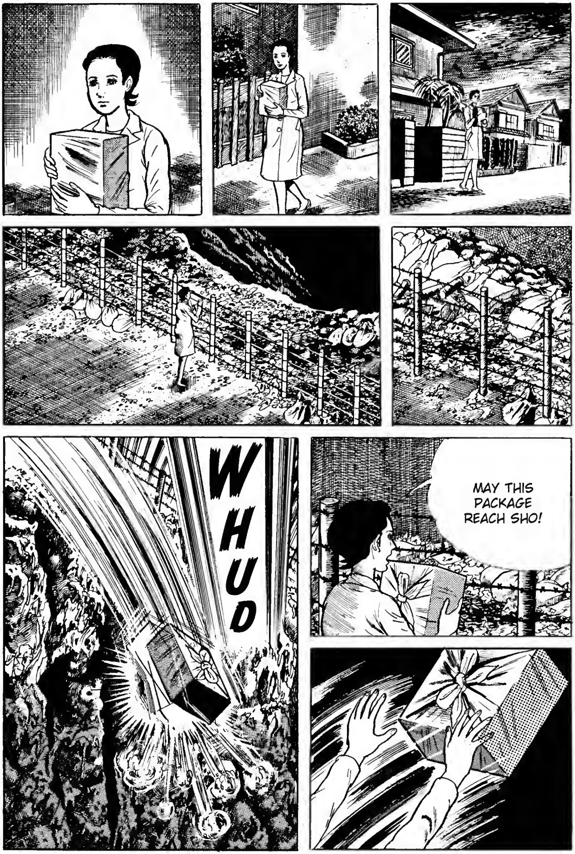

YAMATO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, A GARBAGE DUMP!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
AH!
WH-WHAT IN THE WORLD *IS* THIS?
WH-WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?!

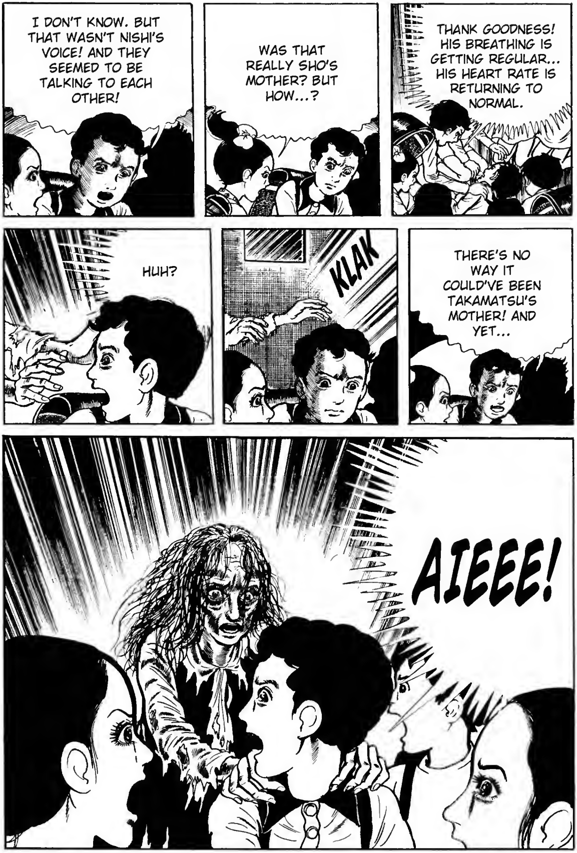

HOW DARE YOU DUMP YOUR GARBAGE HERE?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
HEY!
KLUMF
WAGH!
HEY!
WHAT ABOUT *YOU*--DUMPING YOUR TRASH HERE?! THIS IS AN *ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!* AREN'T YOU ASHAMED?!
WH-WHAT YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
PTOO! UCCK!
TRY NOT *MAKING* SO MUCH GARBAGE FOR A CHANGE!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
THEN WHERE AM I *SUPPOSED* TO DUMP THIS TRASH, HUH?


WHUD
WHY DID YOU THROW THEM AWAY? TAKE THEM HOME!
WHAT ARE THESE CARROTS AND CANDY?! THEY'RE STILL EDIBLE!
NOW TAKE THIS BACK!
大和小学
大和小学校
AND DON'T EVER LET ME CATCH YOU HERE AGAIN!
*SIGN=YAMATO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SHO...!


マーケット
*SIGN=MARKET
YOU WANT ALL THIS CANNED FOOD?
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU SHOULDN'T HOARD MERCHANDISE LIKE THIS...IT'LL UPSET OUR OTHER CUSTOMERS...
THEN SELL ME AS MUCH AS YOU CAN! I'LL BUY THE REST SOMEWHERE ELSE!
SHE'S ALWAYS DOING THIS!
SHE MUST BE SOME SURVIVALIST! I CAN'T IMAGINE...!


DEAR SHO...HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I WRITTEN YOU NOW?
HAVE ANY OF MY LETTERS REACHED YOU?
I CAN'T STAND THE THOUGHT OF YOU STARVING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT...
SO I'VE DECIDED TO SEND YOU THESE CANNED GOODS...
SHARE THEM WITH YOUR FRIENDS. I'LL KEEP SENDING THEM AS LONG AS I CAN...
I'M SENDING MEDICINE TOO...
I HOPE THEY REACH YOU...


MAY THIS PACKAGE REACH SHO!
WHUD


I DON'T KNOW. BUT THAT WASN'T NISHI'S VOICE! AND THEY SEEMED TO BE TALKING TO EACH OTHER!
WAS THAT REALLY SHO'S MOTHER? BUT HOW...?
THANK GOODNESS! HIS BREATHING IS GETTING REGULAR... HIS HEART RATE IS RETURNING TO NORMAL.
HUH?
KLAK
THERE'S NO WAY IT COULD'VE BEEN TAKAMATSU'S MOTHER! AND YET...
AIEEE!

TO BE CONTINUED...